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SWEATED WAR WORK.

The Common Cause

OF HUMANITY.

The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

LAW-ABIDING.] ***Societies and Branches in the Union* 602.** [NON-PARTY.

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OUR HUNS AT HOME.

THE SUB-SUB-SUB CONTRACTOR: Grumblin' abaht a few buttons and thread—You must give somethin' to yer King and Country. Wot if you was like them Belgium Women?

Notes and News.

War Babies.

Under the heading "An Urgent War Problem," Mr. Ronald McNeill, writing to *The Morning Post*, has called attention to a very grave situation. "All over the country," he writes, "in districts where large masses of troops have been quartered, a great number of unmarried girls will become mothers within a few weeks from the present time. I have information of one county borough, which is said not to be exceptional, where there are more than two thousand young women and girls in this condition. The total number of illegitimate children shortly to be born is very many thousands, not a few of the prospective mothers being little more than children themselves." Various proposals have been made for dealing with this exceedingly difficult question, and a conference of the representatives of all the Women's Societies engaged in maternity work, to which the National Union sent a representative, was held yesterday at the offices of the Women's Imperial Health Association. Such a consultation of experts seems the fitting way to approach this urgent and many-sided problem.

Children and War Work.

The Board of Education has issued a white paper, showing the number of children exempted from school attendance, "owing to circumstances connected with the war." The returns showed that 89 per cent. of the children released have been employed in agricultural work, and the large majority of these children are between the ages of 12 and 13; 449 are over 13, and 59 are between 11 and 12 years of age. There seems to have been no guarantee that children are only to be employed as a last resort, nor can we find evidence of adequate safeguards against the exploitation of children by under-payment or other improper conditions. Wages vary, as a rule, from 2s. to 6s. a week, meals being given in the former case. There is one instance of a child working for board and lodging only. We endorse, with shame, the words of *The New Statesman* Supplement: "It is hardly to our credit that we took the line of least resistance in re-organising the army of labour by attempting to seize upon the most defenceless first." We would most earnestly plead that the pitiful history of children's employment in this country should not be forgotten. The necessity for their labour should be reconsidered in the light of all the facts, and, if still found indispensable, it should at least be subject to the most rigid restrictions and safeguards.

Sweated War Work.

In view of the crying evil of sub-contracting and its effect upon sweated labour, as described by Mr. Haslam in our present issue, we welcome Mr. Baker's statement, so far as it goes, in the House of Commons, that "all tenderers for Service dress clothing contracts are now required to give an undertaking that the work will be carried out on their own premises." We presume, however, that this can only apply to new tenders, and sub-contracts already in force are still producing conditions which can only result in the most shameless exploitation of labour. Meanwhile, cartridge makers have no redress against the excessive hours of work. It was reported in *The Times* of April 20th that a firm of engineers was summoned for keeping women at work longer than the specified time. It was alleged that a girl, under 18, worked from 6 a.m. on Friday till 7 a.m. on Saturday, when she had an accident; an older woman worked from 6 a.m. on Friday till 11 a.m. on Saturday. The Stipendiary Magistrate said that it seemed to him idle to ask any court to do anything to limit the output of ammunition. He was not going to do it. It was not suggested that anyone would be any the worse for the extra work.

The National Union and the War Emergency Committee.

The National Union sent representatives to the War Emergency Committee, presided over by Miss MacArthur on April 16th, and joined in the passing of some, though not quite all, of the resolutions. They, of course, fully concurred in advocating that "adequate safeguards" must be laid down "for any necessary transference or substitution of labour." While they could not express a view on one side or the other as to the necessity for women to join trade unions, they voted in favour of equal pay for equal work; and the avoiding "at all costs" of the danger of "the stereotyping of sweated conditions," as also for the provision of "adequate training with maintenance for suitable women."

Women Workers after the War.

They found themselves, however, unable to support one section (*e*) of Resolution 1, "That in any readjustment of staffs which may have to be effected after the war, priority of employment shall be given to workmen whose places have been filled by women." The National Union cannot support any motion which would involve differentiating against women. In this case the suggestion clearly is that women workers should be dismissed, after the war, to make room for returning men, while other substitutes—boys or older men—might be retained. A Suffrage resolution was carried unanimously, though the National Union was unable to support (or oppose) the demand for universal suffrage. We give a report of the Conference in another column.

"Back to a Sense of Proportion."

Under this heading, *The Times* reported last Saturday that "the drink problem is now generally recognised as only a part, though an essential part, of *the far greater problem* of increasing the output of munitions of war. The italics are our own. The sense of proportion, we confess, is beyond us. We are reminded of a debate in Parliament soon after the outbreak of the war, when a Bill for the restriction of the sale of liquor was passed. It was argued then (though without effect) that powers to restrict such sale should be granted only if required by the military or naval authorities; or, as one member put it: "We are not dealing with this Bill as temperance men; we are dealing with it as patriots."

What is a Patriot?

This distinction seems to us mischievous in the extreme. Politicians who degrade the word "patriot" to such narrow uses show an entire misconception of the magnitude of the temperance problem. It is not a question of armament workers getting drunk; it is a question of human beings getting drunk. The fact that some of them work in armament factories has called our special attention to the question, and remedies are proposed. To restrict those remedies to one small class of workers and to ignore the larger issue, after all the expectation raised, is to "go back" very far indeed to "a sense of proportion" which we had surely outgrown. Let us at least recognise such a lapse as retrograde, and not confuse it with the generous virtue of patriotism!

Are British Women Inferior?

On April 19th, Mr. Harcourt, in answer to a question, informed the House of Commons that, when intimating the postponement of the ordinary Imperial Conference to the various Dominions, he had telegraphed to each of the Governors-General: "Will you at the same time inform your Prime Minister that it is the intention of His Majesty's Government to consult him most fully, and if possible personally, when the time arrives to discuss possible terms of peace." Mr. Harcourt further stated that "His Majesty's Government intend to observe the spirit as well as the letter of this declaration." This has fitly been described as an "epoch-making announcement." For the Woman's Movement, too, it is "epoch-making." Here are women voters necessarily concerned in a question of world-wide importance. How long can we now continue to be told that British women are unfit for such responsibilities?

A Timely Protest.

Mrs. Lees, of Oldham, has been protesting against the resolution of the Oldham Education Committee to pay a woman official less than a man as a commencing salary. A woman has been appointed School Attendance Officer, at a salary of 26s. a week—4s. less than a man would receive on starting the same work. It was said that if the woman officer gave satisfaction, she would be put on a level with the men. This means that a woman must give proof of her efficiency, while a man's is taken for granted, and it appears that the chances of a woman giving satisfaction are less by the sum of 4s. than the chances of a man giving satisfaction!

In Parliament.

Army Clothing Contracts.

Wednesday, April 14th.

Mr. Booth (Pontefract, L.) asked if any firms purporting to be manufacturers of clothing have taken contracts for Army clothing and then passed on the work to other firms connected with the Government by other contracts.

Mr. Baker (Financial Secretary to the War Office) replied that all tenderers for Service dress clothing contracts are now required to give an undertaking that the work will be carried out on their own premises.

Imperial Conference.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Harcourt), in reply to a request by Sir Gilbert Parker for information as to the postponement of the Imperial Conference, stated that though the ordinary Conference was considered by the Government to be unsuited to present conditions, he had, when intimating its postponement to the various Dominions, telegraphed to each of the Governors-General :—

"Will you at the same time inform your Prime Minister that it is the intention of his Majesty's Government to consult him most fully and, if possible, personally, when the time arrives to discuss possible terms of peace."

He hardly needed to add that his Majesty's Government intended to observe the spirit as well as the letter of this declaration, which he believed had given complete satisfaction to the Governments of the Dominions.

Freedom of Discussion.

Thursday, April 15th.

In the debate on the Motion for Adjournment till Tuesday several members protested against the curtailment of opportunities for discussion and criticism, which would be entailed if this motion was the preliminary to taking all Mondays away.

Mr. James Hope (Sheffield, U.) said that it was impossible to prophesy, but there were indications that this would not be such an exceptionally light session from the point of view of legislation. Business was likely to accumulate, and at the same time there might be matters of great importance which would require discussion.

Sir Henry Dalziel (Kirkcaldy Burghs, L.) maintained that members ought not to give up all their right and deprive themselves of the opportunity of raising matters which might be unpalatable to the Government, which hon. members considered it their duty to raise.

Lord Robert Cecil said that he did not believe there was anything to be gained by freeing the Ministry, even at a time of great crisis, from criticism and discussion of their proposals.

Mr. Bonar Law (Lancs., Bootle, U.) asked the Prime Minister to consider what was the best means which could be arrived at for giving a larger amount of opportunity for discussion of important matters.

The Prime Minister assured Mr. Bonar Law that the Government would always be ready to give facilities for such discussions, if they received intimation beforehand.

The Drink Question.

Tuesday, April 20th.

A motion by Mr. Wing (Houghton-le-Spring, L.), that no alcoholic liquors should be sold in the refreshment rooms or bars attached to the House of Commons during the war was adjourned until the Government's proposals with regard to the drink question have been put before the House, as there was a considerable divergency of opinion among members. Mr. McKenna stated that he was unable now to say what the Government's proposals would be, or when they would be made, but measures dealing with the whole subject would shortly be brought forward.

No War Bonus for Postal Employees.

Mr. Hobhouse, in reply to Mr. Anderson (Attercliffe, Lab.), said : "The Government have given very careful consideration to the request of the National Joint Committee of Postal and Telegraph Associations that a war bonus should be granted to employees with salaries below £210 per annum in order to meet the abnormal cost of living produced by the war. The Government have decided that the rise in the cost of living is not by itself a sufficient reason at the present time for increasing the wages of their employees. They regard this rise as a burden which must be shared in common by all classes in the country. Compliance with this request from postal servants would entail corresponding grants to all Civil Servants of a similar status, and would therefore impose at a time of great financial pressure a charge so great upon the Exchequer that the Government do not consider they would be justified in doing it."

The Notification of Births Act.

In answer to Sir W. Byles (Salford, N., Min.) and others, Mr. Herbert Lewis (Flintshire, Min.) said : "The Notification of Births Act imposes no duty on a local authority to follow up notifications made under it, and unless this work is undertaken the chief value of the Act is not secured. The department have generally considered that it is preferable to persuade local authorities to adopt the Act and carry out health visiting and other measures for the benefit of persons whose cases are brought to their notice in pursuance of the Act, rather than simply to put the Act in force compulsorily. I may add that the Act is now in force in respect of about 75 per cent. of the total population of England and Wales, and that the question of the adoption of the Act is now under consideration in several areas."

War Service for Women.

On April 16th a Conference convoked by the War Emergency Workers' National Committee was held at Caxton Hall, to consider the conditions upon which women should accept service during the war in response to the Government's appeal. Representatives of the Women's Trade Union, Labour, Suffrage, Co-operative, Socialist, and other organisations were present, and also some representatives of Unions which do not admit women to membership.

Miss Mary Macarthur, who took the chair, in opening the proceedings, said that it was felt by the Committee that the Government's appeal involved certain great issues, and constituted not merely a woman's question, but a national question, which affected the men as much as the women, and the children as much as, or more than, either. At the time when the appeal was issued, some of them were at a loss to understand the reason of it, because there were then many thousands of women —normal wage-earners—who were unemployed throughout the country, some 40,000 of them being registered at the Labour Exchanges, while thousands more were employed only half-time. The armament factories declare that there is no shortage of suitable women. Outside the works of Messrs. Armstrong there were crowds waiting on the chance of getting work, although this firm was working twelve-hour shifts night and day. Some of the women had come for over three weeks, on the chance of something turning up. In response to an appeal for certain improvements in wages and conditions, Messrs. Vickers had replied that competition for work in their factory was greater now than it had ever been. This did not look as if there were any dearth of women workers, but Mr. Runciman had now explained that the need was more prospective than immediate.

There were some who urged that at such a crisis women should undertake work without making conditions ; but this would be but poor patriotism. At a time like this, which is pregnant with possibilities for future industrial development, it was absolutely essential that safeguards should be established to prevent women from reducing the standard of living. To work without making conditions would be to help, not the country, but the profit-making interests, which had already in many cases shamefully exploited the national emergency. The country would lose in the long run from any depression of the industrial standard, and it was the truest patriotism to consider what conditions and safeguards should be laid down with regard to the introduction of women into fresh trades.

Conditions of Employment.

Miss Margaret Bondfield (Women's Emergency Committee) moved a resolution declaring that it was imperative in the interests of the highest patriotism that no emergency action should be allowed unnecessarily to depress the standard of living of the workers or the standard of working conditions, and that the conference therefore urged :—

(*a*) That all women who register for war service should immediately join the appropriate trade union, and that membership of such organisation should be the condition of her employment for war service ;

(*b*) That where a woman is doing the same work as a man she should receive the same rate of pay, and that the principle of equal pay for equal work should be rigidly maintained ;

(*c*) That in no case should any woman be drafted from the War Register

to employment at less than an adequate living wage, and that the stereotyping of sweated conditions must at all costs be avoided;

(*d*) That adequate training, with maintenance, should be provided for suitable women whom it is proposed to place in employment under the foregoing conditions, and that in choosing candidates for such training, preference should be given, where suitability is equal, to the normal woman wage-earner now unemployed;

(*e*) That in any readjustment of staffs which may have to be effected after the war, priority of employment shall be given to workmen whose places have been filled by women.

It would need every ounce of public opinion to fight the stereotyping of sweating conditions, and she called upon the trade unions to help the sweated women workers.

Mr. Hughes (National Union of Clerks) seconded the motion. He said that of the 33,000 women who had registered themselves, about 5,000 had indicated a preference for clerical employment. He knew of employers who, having urged their male clerks to go to the front, and taken on women clerks at lower wages—in some cases half wages—now said that clerical work was not the proper thing for men, and that they would continue to employ women clerks after the war. That, whatever its merits, was a question which should be decided quite apart from the present national crisis.

Mrs. Drake (East London Federation of the Suffragettes) moved to add to the first clause the words: "and that those trade unions which exclude women be urged to admit women as members."

Mrs. Deane Streatfeild (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies) said that as the society which she represented consisted of members of every variety of political opinion, she could not vote on the clause relating to Trade Unions, with which some of its members might, perhaps, not be in agreement, but the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies heartily supported the rest of the resolution.

Miss Nina Boyle (Women's Freedom League) opposed the proposal that membership of a trade union should be obligatory. She expressed herself strongly on the subject of the way in which women had been treated by trade unions.

After considerable discussion, the clause with regard to membership of a trade union, together with Mrs. Drake's addition, was agreed to, with a very few dissentients.

In the course of the discussion on the second clause, in favour of equal pay for men and women, Mr. Smith (National Agricultural Labourers' Union) said his society was opposed to the general introduction of woman labour into agriculture. They were willing that it should be introduced if there was a shortage of labour, provided that there was adequate protection for the women who went into the fields.

On a motion made by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst on behalf of the East London Federation of the Suffragettes, it was resolved that the maintenance to be provided for women in training should be at the rate of not less than £1 a week.

Miss Neale (Domestic Workers' Union of Great Britain) moved the addition of a proviso that women who were displaced at the end of the war by the return of workers from the front should be guaranteed employment thereafter.

This was accepted by Miss Macarthur on behalf of the National Emergency Committee, and the resolution as thus amended was agreed to.

Dr. Mary Phillips moved a resolution demanding that organised women workers should be appointed to serve on the advisory committee of workers appointed by the Government for the purpose of accelerating the output of Government work.

This was carried unanimously, with the addition, moved at the instance of the East London Federation of the Suffragettes, that in any court of arbitration set up for dealing with trade disputes during the war, a representative of the women workers should be appointed, and that in the case of women's disputes the sole arbitrator should be a woman.

The Suffrage.

Mrs. Gasson (Women's Co-operative Guild) moved a resolution expressing the conviction that, in view of the frankness with which the Government had publicly announced the co-operation of women to be essential to the protection and defence of the country, it was illogical and unjust to delay unnecessarily the full rights of citizenship to women.

Miss Helen Ward (London Society) said that although the London Society was fully in sympathy with the resolution, it did not wish to take part in it, as it had suspended its political activities during the war.

Mrs. Tanner, on behalf of the Women's Freedom League and the United Suffragists, moved as an amendment the substitution of the word "women's" for "universal."

The amendment was rejected by a considerable majority, and the resolution was adopted almost unanimously.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF WOMEN.

A very successful women's conference to discuss the basis of a permanent peace settlement was held in the Central Hall, Westminster, on April 14th. Mrs. Rackham was in the chair, and opened the proceedings by explaining that the Conference had been summoned at the suggestion of the Union of Democratic Control, so that women who were in general sympathy with the objects of the Union might have an opportunity of discussing its programme. Nine resolutions in all were moved and carried—for the most part unanimously; the only one which aroused any serious criticism being that urging the Government to declare without delay the terms upon which the Allies would be willing to make peace. This was proposed by Miss C. E. Marshall, and seconded by Mrs. Bonwick. Some considerations on the other side were put forward by Miss E. F. Rathbone, but after a prolonged discussion, the resolution was carried by a very large majority.

The first resolution on the agenda was to express the opinion that the time was now ripe for British women to help to form public opinion as to the principles which should underlie the settlement after the war. This was moved by Lady Courtney, seconded by Miss Margaret Bondfield, and carried without any further discussion. Mrs. Swanwick made a powerful and well-informed speech in moving a resolution urging the more democratic control of foreign policy and the reform of the diplomatic service. She dwelt upon the recent report of the Commission on the Civil Service in reference to the diplomatic service, and urged the enlargement of the field from which our diplomatists are drawn. She was seconded by Mrs. Strickland in an eloquent speech, and supported by Lady Horsley, among others.

A resolution on which there could not conceivably be two views at such a Conference was one urging that no system was democratic which did not provide for the equal representation of men and women, but the fact that they were preaching to the converted did not deter Mrs. Barton, the mover, and Miss Margaret Ashton, the seconder, from making two admirable and stirring speeches. The Rev. Hatty Baker also made a short speech in support. Mrs. Despard moved a resolution demanding that the claims of small nations should be respected, and the wishes of the inhabitants considered in any re-arrangements which might be made after the war. In the absence of Miss Barbara Mackenzie, Miss K. D. Courtney seconded the resolution in a thoughtful speech, in which she urged the necessity of close and careful study if the complicated issues involved in the question of nationality were ever to be straightened out. In moving a resolution urging that Belgium should be restored to its place among the nations, Mrs. George Cadbury read a carefully-prepared paper on the history of Belgium and its position among the nations, together with an account of its recent sufferings and its claim to reparation in the future. Miss I. O. Ford, in seconding, put before the Conference some of the views which had been expressed to her by Belgian people on the recent invasion of their country. Miss S. Sanger moved, and Miss Royden seconded, a resolution asking for the setting-up of an International Council in place of the old system of Alliances created for the purpose of maintaining the Balance of Power in Europe. The resolution on armaments was to have been moved by Dr. Marion Phillips, and seconded by Miss Clementina Black, but, unfortunately, neither of these was able to be present, on account of illness. Their places were taken at very short notice by Mrs. Salter and Mrs. Swanwick, who urged an international reduction of armaments—pending the possibility of disarmament—and the nationalisation of their manufacture. Mrs. Salter dwelt upon the terrible drain on a nation's resources which was caused by the strain of huge armaments, and the consequent loss to many social reforms, which were hindered from want of money.

The final resolution was framed with the object of securing a practical outcome of the proceedings, and urged those present to become members of the Union of Democratic Control. This was moved by Mrs. Lound, and seconded by Miss I. O. Ford. They explained that the committee which organised the Conference was formed for that purpose alone, and was not a permanent organisation, and it was felt desirable that the interest aroused in those present at the Conference should be turned into an effective channel for the formation of public opinion.

The Conference was attended by nearly 400 women, some of them present as individuals, but the majority representing some society or organisation. The attendance was well maintained throughout the day, and the proceedings were orderly and united.

THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONGRESS.

At a meeting held on April 15th at Morley Hall, of the British Committee of the International Women's Congress, to take place at The Hague next week, Miss Picton-Turberville said that two points with regard to the Congress had been misunderstood—it had not been arranged by British women, but by the women of Holland, and it was not going to be a "peace at any price" congress. The utmost suggestion was that this war should not be allowed to continue through misunderstanding. If false impressions were weighing heavily on the belligerent countries, the first step was to remove them. Ever since the time of Constantine, war had been considered inevitable, just as in the Middle Ages pestilences had been considered inevitable. We had now to consider whether war was really inevitable and a necessary evil, as some people said it was.

Miss Maude Royden urged that we should all do our part in trying to find out whence come wars, for only thus could we hope to prevent them in the future. It was, above all, necessary that we should try and understand the other person's point of view, and the difficulties in trying to understand how the case looked to the Germans were almost insuperable, hearing and reading as we did only what is in our favour. The Germans, however, had a point of view also, and Miss Royden then related how some English women, meeting German women in Holland, had tried to find out what they thought about the war. They asked them what the Germans felt they must achieve before beginning to think of peace, they (the English) feeling that Belgium must first be cleared. The German women replied that, of course, *they* could not even think of peace until they had broken the British Navy, by which the British wanted to dominate the whole world, and to choke the commerce of the whole world.

To the reply that the British Navy was simply for self-defence, and that they had got to break German militarism, the German women pointed out that they considered that their Army was simply for self-defence. They had hostile Russia on one side, and an enemy in France on the other—they were hemmed in in the middle, and a large army was therefore essential.

This showed how necessary it was to understand both sides of the case if wars were to be prevented in the future. They had no quarrel with the women of Germany, and it was only right that the end for which men were sacrificing themselves should not be lost through misunderstanding. It was to end war that so many of our men were fighting, and it was for the women to see that their sacrifices were not made in vain.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

FRANCE.

Victims of War.

The question of how the children of women violated in war are to be dealt with appears to have been settled, in France, without any attempt to find out the views of women. On March 25th M. Bremier is reported, in *Le Journal Officiel*, to have asked the Minister of the Interior if it did not seem to him necessary to consult the women's organisations with regard to the measures to be taken for dealing with "les petits indésirés," and to have drawn his attention to the urgent need of making a definite decision. In reply the Minister of the Interior stated that measures had been arranged for giving effective help to victims of the war, in conditions of absolute secrecy, and that instructions had been circulated to the Prefects of the Departments concerned. *La Française* gathers that these measures give no special help beyond that which the law allows to any woman in need, but merely allow application to be made to the Préfet of the Département instead of to the Mayor of the Commune. "The idea of this kind of assistance is only," says *La Française*, "to consider as a disgrace the misfortune of the mothers and to help them to hide it . . . to some extent." *La Française* pleads that those of the poor victims who wish to bring up their children themselves should be given some special assistance beyond that which is offered to ordinary mothers of illegitimate children, and points out that the treatment decided upon will simply drive them to abandon their little ones. It is also suggested that among those bereaved by the war may be found some who will be willing to adopt an "unwanted child"—a suggestion similar to one already put forward by a correspondent in The Common Cause with regard to the babies of Belgian women who have taken refuge in this country.

L'Ordre de L'Armee.

L'Ordre de l'Armée has been conferred upon Mère Saint-Prosper, Superior of the Sisters of Saint Thomas, who remained with her staff at the Hospital of Soissons during the German occupation of September and the successive bombardments which followed it, and cared for some thousands of sick and wounded under the enemy's fire. Also upon Mlle. Marie Burnel, head nurse at Auxiliary Hospital 66, at Gendresaurt, for devoted care of wounded and typhoid cases, remaining at her post in spite of a broken leg; and upon Madame Colas, who stayed in her house at Verneuil, in the midst of constant bombardment, and looked after many wounded.

L'Ordre Civil.

A number of women connected with the telegraph and telephone services have been commended by the French Government for remaining at their posts and working under fire, in some cases keeping communication going at a critical time.

DENMARK.

The Danish Constitution Bill, which, although it has been before the House since October, 1912, has been in abeyance for some months, has now been brought up again, and there seems every prospect that the Bill will become law in June. The interest to women lies in the fact that it provides for their enfranchisement on the same terms as men. While in most of the countries of Europe the minds of the people are concentrated on war, it is a relief to find one country taking a step which its advocates at least regard as one means of safe-guarding the world against future wars.

HONOUR FOR A ROUMANIAN SUFFRAGIST.

Madame Eugénie de Reus Jancoulesco, president of the Roumanian Woman Suffrage Society, has received the highest decoration for which a woman is eligible—the Bene Merenti, First Class—in recognition of her literary and social work.—(*Jus Suffragii*, April 1st.)

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR INDIAN WOMEN.

A new and striking experiment in University education, affecting both sexes in India, is described in *The Times* Educational Supplement. A Bill was introduced by the Viceregal Legislature on March 22nd for constituting a teaching and residential University at Benares, with special facilities for instruction in the Hindu religion. The University, unique of its kind, is to be open to all castes and creeds, though the religious teaching will be for the Hindus, and in their case compulsory. It is the first denominational University for India, and it will be open to women, "subject to such conditions as the regulations may prescribe." English women who have not themselves obtained full equality with men in respect of University status, will be inclined to await the issue of these "regulations" with some misgiving; still, the enterprise in itself is of great interest.

A CHINESE SUFFRAGIST.

Mrs. W. K. Chung, who is now visiting New York, was the founder of the first Chinese private school for girls in Hong Kong ten years ago, and has been a leader in the up-hill fight of Chinese women for education and other rights. She is an ardent Suffragist, and two years ago voted for the members of the famous Assembly which included ten women. This Assembly led the Suffragists to coin the phrase "catching up with China."

"The Assembly," said Mrs. Chung, "did much good, and it has not all been undone. There were many good laws passed which still obtain—one of them is a law giving women the right to control their property. Marriage laws and customs are better, too. We are beginning to have divorce in China, something which was quite unknown before." The reactionary party, which has now the upper hand in China, closed many of the schools, suspended the Assembly, suppressed the too radical papers, and punished their editors. "But in spite of the reaction," said Mrs. Chung, "we still have more rights than before the revolution, but, of course, women must go on fighting. We were side by side with the men in the revolution. We must go on working like that. We cannot trust the men to do our fighting for us." Mrs. Chung expects to return to China and continue her work as soon as her health will permit.

A JAPANESE HOSPITAL IN PARIS

A writer in *La Française* describes the excellent organisation of the Japanese Hospital Unit established in the Hotel Astoria in Paris. The staff consists of three Japanese doctors and twenty-two nurses, assisted by several voluntary workers.

Travel and Fiction.

Delia Blanchflower. Mrs. Humphry Ward. (pp. 420 Ward, Lock. 6s.)
The Wife of Sir Isaac Harman. H. G. Wells. (pp. 465. Macmillan. 6s.)
Hands of Healing: An Idyll. Theodora Flower Mills. (pp. 352. Arrowsmith. 6s.)
An Englishwoman in a Turkish Harem. Grace Ellison. (pp. 215. Methuen. 5s. net.)
The Conquest of Mount Cook. Freda du Faur. (pp. 246. Allen & Unwin. 16s. net.)

"The public wants a change" was the heading of a recent list of new novels. Change, presumably, from war books to fiction. But it is doubtful whether every kind of fiction finds as ready a sale as it did before last August. We believe, for instance, that Mrs. Humphry Ward has been unfortunate in publishing a Suffrage novel, chiefly concerned with the militant wing of the movement, at a time when the colossal militancy of men makes the militancy of the W.S.P.U. seem incredibly faint and far away. The woman who unintentionally causes the death of one child can hardly excite the frenzy of reprobation suggested, when our hearts are seared and our imaginations staggered at the incredible carnage of twentieth-century war. But in any case the book would have made no impression. It is painstaking, careful, laborious; but it is mechanism, not life. These lay-figures have no blood in them.

Mr. Wells is perhaps more fortunate in his choice of subject. In "The Wife of Sir Isaac Harman" he gives us the story of a young girl who was hurried into marriage, and who lived for some years in a sort of trance of vague discontent, caused, as she realised after a while, not so much by disillusionment as by the unfolding of her mind, whose development seemed to have been arrested at the school-girl stage. The struggles through which she passed in the effort to realise herself fully, the efforts she made to live a wider life, aroused misunderstanding and fierce opposition in her husband. At one stage the imperative necessity of thinking things out led her to break a window and give herself in charge as a Suffragette, in order to procure quietness, even if it were that of a prison cell. There are some cleverly-drawn character-sketches in the first part of the book, but the main interest is speedily fixed on three characters: the tyrannical narrow-minded Sir Isaac, his gracious high-souled wife, and Mr. Brumley, her devoted assistant in social work and her would-be lover. The complex personalities of these three provide Mr. Wells with much matter, and give the reader food for thought.

Some people will find it a relief to turn to Miss Mills's story of how Leone Yale outlived a grief which threatened to ruin her life, and found in the end happiness greater than she had lost. The book is rather long-drawn-out, and the theme of the last chapter a little forced and sentimental, but the record of the influence of quiet country life on an overburdened spirit is pleasantly soothing.

In the light of recent events Miss Ellison, who is a sincere admirer of the Turkish people, must be glad that she has set down her impressions of Turkish life from the inside, which will seem to most people unexpectedly favourable. She tells us of the awakening of the women, of the way in which they are encouraged by the men in their strivings towards freedom, and of the patriotism of the Turks. But to most English people there is a feeling of airlessness, of inactivity that is deadening rather than restful, in the vaunted peacefulness of Eastern life, so that they turn with relief to the vivid record of Miss du Faur's adventures in the mountains of New Zealand. The peace of the silent heights appeals to them more than the quiet of the harem.

After a concise historical sketch of climbing in the New Zealand Alps, Miss du Faur describes her own work, much of which was of a pioneer nature. She was the first woman to climb Mount Cook, which she did in record time. Later she crossed the great traverse of Mount Cook at the first attempt. This has never been done before by anyone, and was a wonderful feat, accomplished only at great personal risk.

The story of these and other climbs, told with the greatest modesty and simplicity, and illustrated by magnificent photographs, makes delightful reading. Miss du Faur has a real gift for description, and the snowy peaks and flower-starred valleys, blue lakes and vivid skies, live in her pages. The mountains of New Zealand are unfamiliar. To climb them is to exercise mountain craft and pioneer qualities which are no longer needed in the better known ranges of the world. Miss du Faur has shown that she possesses these qualities in addition to energy, patience, self-restraint, courage, and self-sacrifice.

There is a joyous open-air gaiety in her book which carries us away from the pressure of anxiety and pain and problems which seem insoluble. It is a book to read; it acts as a tonic, for no one can read it and go back to work without a sense of having been lifted up for a while into the silence and the sunshine of a saner life.

M. M. McA.

Women in Industry: A Bibliography, arranged by L. W. Papworth and D. M. Zimmern (Women's Industrial Council), contains a full list of books and publications dealing with industrial women. The titles are arranged alphabetically in two separate lists, in the first list under comprehensive headings such as "Compensation," and "Minimum Wage" and "Night Work," while the second list includes all the trades in which women are employed. The whole forms an indispensable book of reference to anyone making a study of women's industrial questions.

The annual report of the Women's Industrial Council for 1913-14 should be read by all who are interested in the conditions of women workers. It can be obtained from 7,. John Street, Adelphi.

Correspondence.

A large amount of correspondence is unavoidably held over. It is necessary to remind our readers that there is no editorial responsibility for opinions expressed in the correspondence columns.

THE HAGUE CONGRESS.

Madam,—As the writer of a letter in *The New Statesman* criticising certain matters in connection with the Women's Congress at The Hague, I shall be grateful if, by a special act of courtesy, you will spare me a little space. My reason for asking this being that the correspondence in *The New Statesman* has now been closed for some weeks.

Since writing the letter to which I refer, I have had the opportunity of studying certain papers recently issued by the British Committee, including important amendments which they propose to the original resolutions. These amendments deal with most of the weak points in the resolutions, and, in particular, they provide against the demand for an immediate truce, and remove any suspicion of desire to dwell upon the mistakes of men as such. Taking into consideration all the circumstances in regard to the Congress, together with the fact that this Committee are pressing such amendments, that they state quite definitely that the Congress will not advocate peace at any price, and that a liberal interpretation will be placed upon the words "general agreement," support of their enterprise no longer seems to me inconsistent with the position of one who feels pledged to promote the prosecution of this war until our obligations to the martyr Belgium and to our Allies in general are assured of fulfilment.

As I understand it, the Congress will not claim to lay down how, consistently with our obligations, a just and lasting peace can be established, nor when. At the right time that will be the task of the accredited representatives of the countries concerned. But these representatives must be strengthened under their stupendous responsibility by an enlightened public opinion. If the dead hand of the past is not again to strangle hope for the future, if after the war a new kind of peace, and that a people's peace, is to be built up, new kinds of risk must be faced now, for the people must understand before it is too late. It is for these reasons one would desire that, even at the cost of tediousness, anything like misunderstandings should be cleared out of the way.

I much regret that an ambiguity of phrase on my part should have given rise to the idea that I desired to apply the expression "poisoned speech" either to the propaganda associated with the Society of Friends or to the publications of the British Committee. It had not crossed my mind that such an interpretation of my words was possible. I could explain and fully substantiate these words if it were profitable to do so, but I should prefer rather to withdraw them, and to retreat from the line of argument with which they were connected. Since reading in the "professional patriotic" press on the subject of the Women's Congress, a doubt has arisen in my mind as to whether one can avoid responsibility for "poisoned speech" merely by holding aloof from some particular school of pacifist.

I have just seen that the authorities may limit the number of British women allowed to go to The Hague. This might lessen the chance of the British Committee's amendments being carried, but it does not otherwise affect my present argument.

Non-Militarist.

Miss L. Innes Lumsden writes:—

Madam,—When the International Congress of Women, to be shortly held at The Hague, was first mooted, the suggestion was made that Frenchwomen might find it difficult to attend. But now Frenchwomen have refused to attend, plainly declaring that while their country is invaded they will not talk of peace. Surely—to put it at its lowest value—this is only common sense. How can international conditions relating to peace or anything else be discussed before the issues of war are determined, while Germany still holds Belgium in its pitiless grip with parts of France and Poland? What the women of France say we, too, might say. Is there anyone so dull of apprehension as not to realise that this war is for us also a war of defence, that every blow struck in that long line of trenches from the Vosges to the sea is as truly struck in defence of Great Britain as if it were dealt in Kent or Surrey, or here on the shores of Forth or Tay? To me it seems only too clear that for British women to meet German women at such a crisis as this, in order to discuss matters in themselves most complex and whose settlement must depend upon who wins the victory in this tremendous struggle, is nothing but a treachery to the cause of the Allies. I will not speak of the origin of this awful war, nor of the objects for which we are fighting, the right of small nations to exist, the sacredness of treaties, the deliverance of martyred Belgium, the liberties of Europe. Were I to do so probably the pages of The Common Cause would be closed to me. But I am—to use Mrs. Fawcett's stirring and simple words—"heart and soul" with my country, and I cannot keep silence when the most fatal danger of all dangers looms before us—to be a nation divided against itself (some of us prematurely discussing peace—and that with members of a nation which glories in hating us and is determined upon our ruin)—instead of all together patiently putting our whole strength into the tremendous task of war. I admit that some German women, notably Frau Zedkin, have spoken of this European war with dignity, moderation, and good sense. But Germany is guilty of atrocious crimes against humanity, and to ignore these would be to insult her victims. War is abominable—granted. But we have to face facts. This war can only end in three ways—either in the utter ruin of the British Empire, or in the downfall of Germany as Germany is now, or in a *draw*, which would leave Germany time and strength to renew war under more favourable conditions for herself. Downfall would probably be no misfortune for her, but, on the contrary, her salvation. And while these tremendous issues are pending, and when we know that the stiffest tug-of-war is yet to come, surely we ought to take no step calculated to weaken our country's strength, and that of her Allies—France, Russia, Serbia—all struggling heroically in what the opinion of the whole world is more and more solid in pronouncing the cause of Right and Freedom.

WOMEN AND MUNITIONS OF WAR.

Madam,—One of your correspondents asks me to explain what I meant in my letter, published in The Common Cause of April 9th, by the words "abandoning the principle of selfishness for the principle of love."

By that I mean that any individual who believes that the principle of love, or peace, is superior to the principle of selfishness, or war, should abandon the latter in favour of the former, and not, as most of us do, vainly try to act on both at once.

Each individual is responsible for his own action as to both, and it would be to the interest of us all if each consistently chose one or the other. Individuals make nations, and the present war shows that, so far the nations have acted on the principle of selfishness; therefore, the sooner that principle is abandoned by individuals, the sooner it will be abandoned by nations. Our statesmen are acting for the nation on the principle of selfishness; but as soon as the nation abandons it, that principle will be renounced by our statesmen. It seems that extraordinary courage and faith are required to do this now; but the "self-evident" truth that love is more powerful than selfishness ought to make us believe that, in individually abandoning the principle of selfishness for the principle of love—in abandoning war for peace—we should be acting for our country, not only on the side of right, but also on the side of might.

"A nation that refuses arbitration, and declares a war of conquest," may be dealt with by a firm and unanimous refusal to fight, even on the part of a nation whose conscience is not clear as to its action before the final challenge. Our conscience as a nation is not clear on that point, since we have shirked our responsibility in our foreign relations, and have taken no interest in them until we have been committed to war. "Two wrongs do not make a right," and for a second country to determine on war because a first has done so is, therefore, an obvious wrong. What we have not yet learned to do is to act on our beliefs, though we uphold them in words. We believe that the principle of love is higher and more potent than the principle of selfishness; we even say that love is stronger than death. Let us act on this belief. Britain's cost in pushing, say, for the speedy formation of an International Council might be heavy, but it could never be equal to the frightful cost of this immeasurable war.

Isabel Ashby.

Madam,—I can scarcely believe your note on my criticism is meant to be taken seriously. Since my letter was written, the whole controversy has assumed an importance which must have far-reaching effects, and may I be allowed space to point out what appears to me to be the obvious weakness of your position?

When an organisation takes action, and officially supports a particular method by which it is made possible for a certain line of action to be adopted, it assumes a positive position. This position differs in essentials from the mere negative position of relieving the suffering produced upon the individual through the adoption of the same line of action, but for which adoption the organisation has no responsibility.

In one case the organisation has responsibility for the position of the individual; in the other, it merely finds the individual in a certain position and relieves the suffering.

It is true that the Hospital Work of the National Union may be responsible for the return of some of the wounded to active service. When once the line of action has been adopted, death, disablement, or action on the part of the individual can alone release him from taking the full consequences of his position. A position for which the National Union has no responsibility. In its Hospital Work the Union seeks to relieve as far as it can the suffering produced by the position in which it finds certain individuals. There is a fundamental difference between this position even if those who are experiencing the results of their own action, return again to the front, and are compelled to accept the full consequences of their own action, and that of deliberately using means to make it possible for individuals to adopt a certain line of action. In one it is sought to alleviate suffering; in the other, it is sought to induce individuals to adopt the action by which the suffering is produced. It seems to me that the National Union's position is quite untenable—of all the Suffrage organisations, it should have been the last to stimulate recruiting for the manifestation and use of physical force.

N. O'Shea.

THE NATIONAL UNION SHOP.

Madam,—May I ask you kindly to insert this appeal for the gift or loan of furniture, tea crockery, or contributions in money towards buying the same, for the tea club-room which, it is hoped, will very shortly be opened at our Shop in Parliament Street. I am most anxious that they shall be as comfortable as possible for the use of the members of the N.U. and their friends. There is no doubt that they will supply a need for a resting and meeting place. Last Wednesday, the day of the Conference for Women at the Central Hall, Westminster, member after member called to know if the tea-rooms had been opened and could be used as a resting-place between the afternoon and evening meetings, but we were sorrowfully obliged to reply in the negative.

When the rooms are ready we hope that there will be comfortable chairs, a sofa, and a writing table, besides the tables for tea, &c.

We should be most grateful for the offer of any of these, and also if any members would promise to send *regularly* any popular weekly or monthly papers, such as *Punch*, *Land and Water*, &c., which they take in, *as soon as* they have read them.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary of the N.U. Shop, 50, Parliament Street, Whitehall, S.W.

Mildred Watson (Organiser).

A Correspondent writes:—

"A voluntary worker who has kindly given some time to helping in the Shop during the last fortnight thought it would be interesting to note how many people stayed to look in. One noonday, from 11.30 to 12.30, 86 men and 24 women, total 110, stayed to look in. On the same day, from 1 to 2 o'clock, 116 men and 34 women, total 150. Many of these remained for several minutes and studied the window very thoroughly. The National Union map, showing our branches all over the country, has been examined with great interest."

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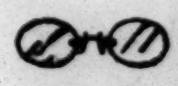
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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

The Coming Congress in Holland.

By Mrs. Fawcett.

I take this opportunity of addressing the Societies and members of the National Union. They will already have learned that a large number of the members of the recently elected Executive Committee have resigned. I deeply regret this loss of able and valued colleagues, and all the more because I feel that their resignation had no sufficient cause. It was in connection with the decision of the Executive Committee not to accept the invitation of the Women's International Congress in Holland, which has been called at the end of this month. This decision was arrived at by the large majority of almost two to one, and it was also ruled that Societies belonging to the Union should follow the lead of the executive and therefore refrain from being officially represented at the Congress. But it is almost needless to add that the Executive Committee evinced not the slightest desire to limit the freedom of action of any of its members who wished to attend the Congress in their individual capacity. I myself considered the Congress likely to be the reverse of conducive to the cause of peace, and also that it would probably be injurious in its effects on the N.U., but I had no wish to impose my view on others. My desire was concentrated on preventing the National Union from being officially connected with the Congress. To justify this point of view, I wish to bring before our members and Societies the following considerations:—The N.U.W.S.S. is a large body of men and women, belonging to all parties, but united on the one great principle of the citizenship of women and their right to the protection afforded by the Parliamentary Franchise. By a resolution adopted at the last Council, the N.U. was, however, authorised, in consequence of the crisis caused by the war, to depart from its exclusively Woman's Suffrage work, and to devote its organisation to measures calculated to sustain the vital energies of the nation, and in such other manner as the Council should direct. Now a good deal of dissatisfaction was expressed after the Council by the same section of the Executive Committee which has just resigned, because of the difficulty which they felt in interpreting the resolutions adopted by the Council; but on one point I think we were all agreed, viz., that the Council gave the Executive no mandate to undertake active work on peace lines. Not that we are not all in favour of peace; every sane human being must be; but the great majority of the nation, irrespective of party, believes that, with Belgium and a great part of France in the hands of Germany, this is not the time to agitate in regard to the terms of peace. The national task is still unaccomplished, and even the strongest of pacifists, including Miss Royden and Mr. Philip Snowden, regard the redemption of Belgium as a necessary condition of any satisfactory terms of peace. Mrs. Swanwick (who is one of the members of the Executive now resigning), writing in *Jus Suffragii* for April, attributed the resignations of Miss Courtney, Miss Marshall, Miss Leaf, and Miss Royden, to their desire to take a more active part in promoting what they consider the right sort of peace settlement than they felt themselves able to take as officers of the Union. If they consider that the recent votes of the Council did not justify them in taking an active part in such a campaign, how can they complain of the action of the Executive Committee in interpreting the Council resolution as giving no mandate to take part officially in the Congress in Holland? For

this Congress, whatever it may be called, is virtually a Peace Congress. All the chief resolutions bear on peace. Some argue that support of it is covered by the resolution of the Council in favour of promoting good-will and mutual understanding among nations. But it is, to say the least, highly problematical whether it will produce this effect. It is not called by the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, and the invitation to send official representatives has not been accepted by the French, Belgian, Serbian, German, and British Societies affiliated to the Alliance. The French Society has explained its point of view in the April number of *Jus Suffragii*. It says: "In France, the nation does not desire immediate peace. . . . How could it wish to hear peace mentioned before it has freed its invaded districts, before it has delivered martyred Belgium, and how could we women discuss now in calmness a programme at the Congress in which there was a question of truce, of arbitration and of reconciliation? It is too soon or too late." Madame van der Velde, speaking recently for Belgium, referred to the peace propaganda in the United States, and said: "Even we Belgians, who are suffering so much, can never agree to this. We are fighting for everything we have always loved."

I appeal to members of the National Union and to the Societies within it to confine their energies during these trying and anxious times, when working through the National Union, to those activities on which we can all agree, to such work, with its developments, together with the educational courses also recommended by the Council, on which the Union concentrated between August, 1914, and February, 1915.

Since the war began, I have been approached by several excellent and useful political societies, with some of which I have been in general agreement, asking for the active co-operation of the N.U. I have invariably replied that, as the National Union consists of men and women of all parties or of no party, it is best for us to keep clear of all political affiliations. Our members may, and do, join party societies if they think fit to do so, though many have severed all party connections because they felt a double loyalty was inconsistent with their devotion to Suffrage principles. On this, each member must judge for herself. But for the Union, as a whole, I think it is imperative, and especially at such a moment as this, that it should stand clear of party.

Army Clothing Contracts.

Sub-Contracting that Leads to Sweating.

"I employs females in all cases I can," said an illiterate clothing sub-contractor to me, "because females is cheaper." I was speaking to him about the wages and conditions of labour attached to the making of khaki suits for Tommy Atkins. As a matter of fact, the labour of unorganised females is cheap enough in all conscience, in most industrial occupations wherein the daughters of England (and of the rest of the United Kingdom) work for a so-called living. But there is no just reason why it should have been reduced to the lowest subsistence level in connection with the making of clothing for the soldiers now fighting the battles of the nation. The war contracts of the Army and the Navy have been let to contractors on liberal terms, and perhaps in no trade does this apply more than in that of the making-up of military uniforms. It is the war clothing contracts to which I wish to refer in this article.

I have not the space to go into details. But let me say, in the first place, that when the Government arranged the clothing contracts with the large clothiers of the nation, they agreed to a flat-rate of prices, out of which ample margins of profit could be obtained after paying good wages to male and female operatives. It was their wish that satisfactory wages should be paid. But to what extent they are responsible for what has taken place since the contracts were delivered it would be difficult to say. The war suits of Tommy Atkins had to be got out as quickly as possible. It was plain enough that the large contractors who effected the joint arrangements with the Government about prices could not do the work themselves in time. Hence, there set in a system of sub-contracting, which became so extensive that any single investigator would very soon find himself or herself beaten in the endeavour to secure a full knowledge of its mysteries. I have talked to employers on the subject; I have talked to trade union secretaries and organisers, to workmen and workwomen, and they tell me that it is impossible to say what the conditions of labour are in connection with what may be called the lower rungs of sub-contracting. In fact, trade union officials have been so busy trying to right the wrongs of the factory workers, that neither they nor anybody else have had time to take up the cause of those in the social and industrial depths of the outworkers.

Even in the organised factory system of the clothiers, wages vary to a remarkable extent, especially among the women and girls. Men, being better organised, have been able to force greater measures of justice. But their earnings cannot be called their own; they are partly obtained by the exploitation of girl labour. For instance, a man in charge of two machines who might make 50s. per week—sometimes less, sometimes more—not infrequently employs a female to work one of the machines, and rewards her with the handsome sum of about 6s. per week!

But take the variance in factory labour. On army khaki contracts, the price paid for making a pair of trousers in some towns is as low as 1s. 10¼d.—a rate out of which a living wage cannot be possibly made; this includes cutting, machining, finishing, pressing, button-holing, and buttoning; in other places the price is 2s. 1¾d., and 2s. 3d. This illustrates the variance existing in respect to other portions of the soldier's clothing. "In view of the conditions in some factories, you can call 1s. 10¼d. a sweating price," said a trade union official to me. But what of the exploited and unorganised home worker? Well, in one insalubrious neighbourhood the price was 1s. 1d., and much of the labour was hand-labour. The earnings were the earnings of starvation. It is mainly the women who have to suffer the bottom scales of pay.

The work and the sub-contracting in regard to the making-up of khaki uniforms are allowed to descend to a low level indeed in many instances. The sub-contracting passes through several degrees. The main contractor (the one who deals direct with the Government) may sub-contract a portion of his work to another maker. The other maker may sub-contract to someone else. That "someone else" may even hand a portion of the work to a class of men who go about canvassing for contracts. Each contractor squeezes a profit out of the transaction; in fact, it is not at all uncommon to find contractors who never see the cloth, and may not necessarily employ anybody in connection with it. Moreover, there are men who have sought and obtained khaki sub-contracts who have never been in the trade before; there are small sub-contractors who are financed by money-lenders. I came across one small sub-contractor, who had undertaken work from another sub-contractor, and this other contractor had obtained his share of the transaction from someone else. But the fourth or fifth-rate sub-contractor I came across had undertaken to turn out 100 khaki tunics per week; he employed his wife and several other females, to whom he paid 8s. and 9s. per week. This sub-sub-sub-contractor (so to speak) had borrowed money from a Jewish loan office. He had installed machinery in a little workshop in a benighted street of a large city. In some neighbourhoods the employment of girls by small masters is pretty general; they not only employ girls in diminutive workshops which have been rapidly fitted up for the occasion, but they distribute work among women in dwelling-houses.

It is difficult to say what the women outworkers earn. The whole of the conditions are peculiar. In factories and workshops, the wages of females (including overtime) vary from 8s. per week to 30s. and 35s. per week—the higher wages being due to higher rates of pay and efficient conditions of labour. The earnings of outworkers vary from 5s. and 6s. per week to 18s. per week. I found one woman working hard, in a gloomy abode, for 6s. per week, another for 7s. 6d. per week, another had received 5s. 6d. I was told of one woman who had earned 17s. 6d., but had had 6s. subtracted for what was termed "bad work." But the most astonishing cases of injustice were those of women *who had been made to pay for thread*. In one case, a woman had been asked to pay for buttons. A woman social investigator gave me an instance of a female home worker who had to pay 6d. for thread out of 1s. 6d. earned in making khaki trousers! This would appear to be a gross injustice, on the top of sweating of a very bad form. I cannot understand it. I cannot understand it, because the Government provide the cloth for soldiers' clothing, in addition to everything necessary in the way of trimmings and sewings. The direct contractor has all the essentials for a suit of clothing put into his hands; in sub-contracting, he hands these over to the sub-contractor, who is paid a fixed price for making-up—for instance, 3s. 3d. for a great-coat, 2s. 9d. for a tunic, 10d. for trousers. All the sub-contractor provides is the labour. Naturally, this process should be followed throughout all the stages of sub-contracting, down to the level of the "sweating" sub-contractor. What it means is that the cloth, the buttons, the hooks and eyes, the tape, the thread, &c., in every single uniform are provided by the Government. Hence, it would appear that any act of charging a home-

worker for thread is a direct form of robbery; yet it has been done in connection with the war clothing contracts.

It is a pity that the Government did not make more extensive arrangements themselves in the first place for the carrying out of the army clothing contracts. The list of prices supplied to direct contractors with the Government shows that if they pay to a sub-contractor 3s. 3d. for making-up an overcoat, 2s. 9d. for tunic, and 10d. for trousers, they (the direct contractors) would make a profit on each overcoat sub-contracted of 7s. 1d., on each tunic 2s. 7¼d., on each pair of trousers 1s. 8½d. Hence, in all cases their profits are handsome, in some instances they rise to 30 and 40 per cent. on their very extensive turn-over. The profits of sub-contractors depend upon the extent they can beat down the price of labour. But when the contract has been split into several portions, and sub-contracted four or five times, the bottom sub-contractor can (and has) earned £5 and £6 per week. These bottom sub-contractors are, in most cases, workmen and small tradesmen (not necessarily in the clothing trade), who have taken advantage of the pressing demand for soldiers' clothing. But they make their profit by forcing down the wages of female operatives to an indecent level; in fact, trade union officials aver that even in the factories several firms are employing khaki workers at rates less than those scheduled under the Trade Boards Act.

The majority of the clothing workers being females, the injustice falls the heavier upon them. If one must speak frankly, they are to blame; at any rate, they have not yet learned the value of organisation. To attempt to organise them is disheartening work; for every 1,000 induced to join the union, say, at any given time, more than one-half of them fall out again within a few weeks. They continue to do this, in spite of the abominable treatment constantly meted out to them by the employers. But irrespective of their reluctance to join trade unions, it was never intended that sweating rates of wages should have been introduced in the making of khaki uniforms during this war. The Government paid a high flat-rate of prices, to prevent sweating. Despite that, some employers have been allowed to pay rates of wages 50 per cent. less than other firms are paying. God only knows how low the rates among the outworkers have been allowed to sink. Responsible leaders of the trade unions will not express a definite opinion on the subject. Perhaps it may be summed up in the words of a female to whom I spoke, who said, "But, thank God, mister, I ain't on karki!" But what a vast amount of good work there is in the world awaiting the increasing army of women social and political workers!

James Haslam.

THE WAR BABIES' AND MOTHERS' LEAGUE.

The general public has only just begun to awake to the fact that a large number of illegitimate babies will shortly be born as the result of conditions due to the war. This state of things was, however, foreseen by the War Babies' and Mothers' League, started early last August by Mrs. Helen Best, which has already cared for over 4,000 mothers and children sent to them by the War Office, the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, the National Relief Fund, and other bodies.

It was only under pressure that the Government granted a dependence allowance for the unmarried mothers of soldiers' children, and this allowance is dependent on certain conditions. The man and woman must have lived together, or there must be some evidence that the man intended to provide a home for the woman. Often this evidence is difficult to obtain, but in some cases the League, by making exhaustive inquiries, has succeeded in getting an allowance under the War Office rule. There are, however, many cases which do not come under this category, and which the League has helped from its own funds.

The idea of the League—both with regard to married and unmarried mothers—is to deal with the women in their own homes wherever possible, taking care of the mother before the child is born, and afterwards taking care of both. If necessary, food and clothes for both mother and child are provided, and the mothers are given light sewing to do at home, as it is a principle of the League not to pauperise or relieve the mother of her responsibilities. The garments made by the women are sold at the offices of the League, 60, South Molton Street, the money thus made going a considerable way towards defraying the expenses of the League, which has so far been carried on with a fund of under £400, though much heavier expenses are expected in the near future.

There are many sad cases in which girls, little more than children, cast off by their parents, are left to bear the shame of unmarried motherhood, and it is felt that both they and their babies will stand a better chance if they are separated. In such cases the League arranges for one of its members to adopt the child, or places it with foster parents, and finds the girl a situation where a careful eye can be kept upon her. As a rule, however, mother and child are kept together, and the mother is helped to earn a living. In every case the most careful inquiries are made, and in no circumstances is assistance given in the case of a second child.

The League has many members all over the country, who help in looking after the mothers and babies, reporting upon cases, finding work, making clothes, and in many other ways; but there is a strict rule that no monetary assistance is to be given, except through the head office.

THE PATROL MOVEMENT IN SOUTHAMPTON.

We have received from Miss Griffith Jones, who has taken a leading part in the organisation of women patrols in Southampton, an interesting account of a Girls' Club run in connection with the patrol movement. Miss Griffith Jones considers that a girl has just as much need of a club where the utmost sociability and freedom shall be combined with privacy and convenience, as a man. There are no restrictions to speak of, and the club is open from 3 to 9.45 p.m. to girls of any class whose moral characters (as far as is known) are satisfactory, so long as they behave themselves in the club. A charge of a penny a week is made, and a room where refreshments may be obtained at a very moderate charge is always open. That the club is appreciated is shown by the numbers on the books, 234 girls of different classes having joined since it was opened, many of them being girls from the shops in the town or employed by the Ordnance Office, who find the club a convenient place for rest and refreshment, not only in the evening, but at odd times. Many of the members are domestic servants.

The club premises consist of a commodious flat on the first floor and one room above, and are, Miss Griffith Jones tells us, very like those of the International Franchise Club. There is a large, airy room for dancing and "sing-songs," and a "quiet" room where the girls can rest or take refreshments, while the room in which the refreshments are actually served adjoins. The room above is used for classes. A branch club has been opened at Horsham, which is a poor district.

A Patriotic Hall.

In addition to these two clubs, a "Patriotic Hall"—a sort of temperance public-house—is run in connection with the patrol movement, and has proved an immense success. The idea of the hall is to provide a place where men and women can mix freely under proper supervision, and the provision of impromptu "sing-songs" and good refreshments at very cheap rates has made the place so popular that it is crowded out every night. It needs very careful supervision, or it could easily get into disrepute; but as it is, over three hundred people come in nightly and thoroughly appreciate the comfort of a well-lit, warm hall, as well as the cheapness of the refreshments, the price of sandwiches, cake, and a cup of tea, coffee, or cocoa being 1d. each. "Of course," writes Miss Griffith Jones, "some people are always trying to find fault and disapprove of mixed halls, but I think they do immense good and ought to be in every town, *only not unless very careful supervision is ever present* to put down at once any bad behaviour, and often make itself felt without actually doing anything."

AFTERWARDS.

The warriors sheathe their swords, the wasted land
With bloodshed and with strife is desolate,
As are the hearts of those who vainly wait
For their beloved from the martial band.
The workman's axe is heard where ruins stand,
The sculptor, with his chisel, doth create,
The nations buy and sell, and men of State
Sit in their Council Chambers and command.

"Cast Demon War aside, break up his spears
And guns and all abominable things
That take men's lives and count them little worth.
Proclaim the Prince of Peace. Two thousand years
Have rolled, since crowned with thorns—on mystic wings
He rose triumphant. He shall rule the earth."

Rebecca Bell.

Work of the Edinburgh Society.

What a winter of activities! What a winter of opportunities, of sorrows, of sufferings, and of all things that go to the formation of character! In the midst of it all, the E.N.S.W.S. has preserved its identity as a Suffrage Society, and, at the same time, has earned a reputation which many an organisation, run and financed by men, might envy.

At the outbreak of war, public bodies were disinclined to make use of its services, not fully appreciating the value of its organisation, and the efforts of the Society were mainly centred upon work parties, collections for the various Relief Funds, and an exchange for voluntary workers. After considerable exertions on the part of Miss Pressley Smith, thirty-three members were elected to the different Ward Committees, but the Edinburgh Relief Committee refused to elect a single representative. In spite of this refusal, at least one important member of the Society is to be found on that committee. Excellent results were obtained in Leith, where members figure prominently in all the Relief Work.

Among organisations which were originally approached with offers of help was the S. & S.F.A. A lady who had undertaken a large section of the work in Edinburgh swallowed her prejudices, she then being an Anti-suffragist, and came to 40, Shandwick Place to ask for help. Twenty-five visitors and conveners of districts were supplied, and she was so pleased with them that she has since presented a grand piano to the Soldiers' Wives' Club in Leith, as a mark of appreciation of the Society. The Society was then approached by the Secretary of the S. & S.F.A. Garrison Committee, and ultimately consented to undertake the whole of the Garrison Committee's work in Leith. This work, which includes the supervision of over 700 cases, organised under 70 visitors, occupies the whole time of an organiser, a clerk, and a band of voluntary secretaries, and is conducted from the Suffrage Office, all the letters being written on the official paper of the E.N.S.W.S. "The Suffragettes Committee," we are called in Leith. The Organising Secretary of the Society is Treasurer as well as Secretary, and over £1,200 has passed through her hands up to date. This piece of work requires tact and patience to a remarkable degree, and it also requires courage and endurance, particularly as recruiting in the district is extremely good, and new cases are daily added to the register.

To a student of human nature, the work is of special interest, and striking contrasts are sometimes presented.

There is the woman who wants her husband "Lifted," in other words removed elsewhere, and there is the woman who sent for the lady doctor. When the doctor arrived, she said that she was *so* miserable without her husband, that she felt she must see him, and that if the lady doctor would sign a certificate to say that she was very ill, the C.O. might give her husband leave to return. There is the woman who is distraught with grief because her baby dies, and the woman who merely remarks, "it was not even insured."

But where the S. & S.F.A. is of infinite value is in the keeping of the homes together. When a family, overcome with numerous illnesses, accidents, and other misfortunes, is plunged in debt and likely to be evicted, the S. & S.F.A. steps in, and often advances the necessary money, being paid back in small instalments. Thus, many a home is saved from shipwreck.

When unemployment among Edinburgh women became pronounced, Miss Alice Low was nominated as a member of the Sub-committee of Women's Employment, and became at first Joint Honorary Secretary of that Committee, and subsequently sole Honorary Secretary. Four workrooms were opened in all. As is inevitable in Relief Work, the most obvious line was taken, and in three out of the four, the work consisted of sewing and knitting, whilst some instruction was given in cooking, sick-nursing, and cutting out, by teachers supplied by the School Board.

Two-course dinners, at the low price of 3d., were supplied by voluntary cooks, and about the beginning of the year a small domestic training centre was opened, the dinners being from that moment cooked and eaten there. This has proved a successful venture from every point of view. Not only is the food excellent, but the girls thus trained have in several cases left their previous and often inferior work for domestic service, and in all cases they are the better for learning to cook, sew, wash clothes, and clean a house.

Now that unemployment is less acute, the workrooms have been reduced to two, and it is quite possible that these may be closed at no distant date. Over 300 women have been relieved in the workrooms, and over sixty given home work, whilst many others have been advised and helped and placed in situations by the Sub-committee. Suffragists and Anti-suffragists have together assisted the women by every means in their power. Suffragists, even, have learnt something new about the wages of women in Edinburgh. Again and again it has been the Sub-committee's fate to rescue from destitution some woman, living alone in lodgings, some woman whose earnings on full time when in work had only amounted to 8s. a week.

Among offers received from employers, one was from a west-end shop, for a milliner of four years' experience; and when sent she received 8s. a week. Another was from a firm paying a dividend of 35 per cent., and the wage offered for full time as a scrubber and plate washer was 6s. and two meals.

Miss Low has recently been appointed a member of the Scottish Committee on Women's Employment.

The latest development of the Society's work is in connection with War Service for Women. The E.N.S.W.S. convened a meeting of representatives from the Women's Organisations in Edinburgh and Leith, and a Women's War Service Committee has been formed, on which over twenty societies are represented, and of which Miss Gordon is Honorary Secretary. Throughout the winter, the usual weekly meeting has been held at 40, Shandwick Place, speakers on subjects of special interest being obtained.

We are proud of our members. Not only have they subscribed largely to the Scottish Women's Hospital for Foreign Service, but they have organised lantern lectures, whist drives, collections, meetings, and work parties in aid of its funds. One member is Commandant of the Red Cross Station at Leith Docks, where her detachment received and tended the survivors from the "Blücher" and the other wounded. Others are helping in the rest rooms in the railway stations, whilst a large number are giving their services to the Red Cross at home and abroad.

Out of evil, sometimes good is wrought, and women are realising that now is their opportunity, and they must not be found wanting. They have the chance of showing what they are really fit for, they have the privilege of serving their country, and among the most loyal of the organisations which is helping Britain in its present need is the N.U.W.S.S.

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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs. Henry Fawcett, LL.D.
Hon. Secretaries: Miss Evelyn Atkinson. Miss Edith Palliser (Literature).
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Auerbach.
Secretary: Miss Crookenden.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

At the last meeting of the Executive, the resignations were received with much regret of the following members of the Committee :—

Miss Ashton, Miss Clark, Miss Ford, Mrs. Harley, Miss Leaf, Miss Royden, Mrs. Schuster, Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Swanwick, Miss Tanner.

A communication on this subject has been addressed to the Societies of the Union by the Officers and the Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Miss Edith Palliser has become Honorary Secretary of the Literature Department, in place of Miss Evelyn Atkinson.

Press Report.

The Tribune, an Indian paper published in Lahore, quotes in its issue of March 9th a paragraph from The Common Cause, pointing out the responsibility of British Suffragists towards the women of India.

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1914	797 13 3
Received from April 10th to April 17th, 1915 :—	
Subscriptions.	
Mrs. Gillie	5 0
Miss E. Cadmore and Miss M. S. Walker	7 6
Mrs. Gilbert Walker	1 1 0
Mrs. G. Unwin	1 1 0
Lady Clare Annesley	10 0
Mrs. W. H. Patterson	1 1 0
Affiliation Fees.	
Cupar W.S.S.	1 5 0
Exeter W.S.S	3 2 9
Horsham W.S.S.	1 10 0
Wellington W.S.S.	13 6
Horley W.S.S.	10 0
Lewes W.S.S.	8 0
Gourock W.S.S.	17 6
Donations.	
Jewellery sold	10 0 0
Lady Clare Annesley	10 0
	£820 15 6

Active Service Fund.

	£ s. d.
Already acknowledged ...	4,722 18 1
Miss S. Murray	2 12 6
Mr. J. A. Morton (7th monthly donation)	5 0
Miss Inez de Reyes (3rd donation)	10 0
Staff and Pupils, Gloucestershire School of Domestic Science (Belgian Relief, 12th weekly)	1 0 0
Professional Women's Patriotic Service Fund :—	
Mrs. Spring Rice	2 0 0
Miss F. Studholme	1 0 0
Miss Leila C. Sexton ...	4 0
Received for the Scottish Women's Hospital	2 17 6
	£4,733 7 1

"THE COMMON CAUSE" STREET SELLING.

If you cannot sell "The Common Cause" yourself please send us some money so that we may employ out of work women to sell the paper. Donations should be sent to the Manager, "The Common Cause," 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.

A list of important London pitches is kept at the Shop, 50, Parliament Street, and at the "C.C." office, and we want volunteers. Please let us know if you can help.

Sellers are needed to sell outside the following meetings :—

Tuesday, April 27th.—Fabian Society, Meeting at the Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill Street, Westminster (2-3 p.m.).

Wednesday, April 28th.—Women's Freedom League. Meeting at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, Jermyn Street, Piccadilly (2.30-3.30 p.m.).

Marble Arch Depôt.—Copies can be obtained for Hyde Park sellers on Sunday afternoons from 44, Great Cumberland Place, W.

Kensington Depôt.—Miss Bryan, 7, Stratford Road, Kensington. Sellers in this neighbourhood may apply to her house for copies of the paper.

NEW INDUSTRIES FOR WOMEN.

A public meeting will be held at the Fabian Hall, 25, Tothill Street, Westminster, on Tuesday, April 27th, at 3 p.m., to discuss "War Service for Women, with special reference to the opening up of new industries to women, the necessary training, and the probable results." Mrs. Sidney Webb will take the chair, and the speakers will be : Miss Susan Lawrence, L.C.C., Mr. J. J. Mallon (Anti-Sweating League), Mrs. Pember Reeves (Fabian Women's Group), Miss E. C. Taylor (National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies), and Miss Broadhurst (National Political League). Admission will be free.

WOMEN ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

The name of Miss Emily E. Abraham, who was returned at the head of the poll for Herne Bay, was omitted from the list of women returned at the recent Urban District Council Elections, published in our last issue. Her return was promoted, in a considerable degree, by members of the local Suffrage Society. There are now nineteen women serving on these councils in England and Wales. We learn from the Women's Local Government Society that several women were nominated and elected to Boards of Guardians, including two in the Abingdon Union, where previously there had been no woman member. Mrs. Mellish Clark was returned to the Cambridge Board, and two women, who received the support of the local Adult School, were elected at Pontefract. The number of Unions without women guardians is now 191.

UNREST IN THE POST OFFICE.

Last week we reported discontent among Post Office workers, owing to the delay of the Government in considering their demands for a war bonus or increase of pay. On Saturday a special meeting, representing over 100,000 men and women, was held, and the following official statement made : "The Committee took a very serious view of the position, as there was a strong feeling that the Postmaster-General was treating the demands for a war bonus with contempt." The increase asked for is said to be only half the admitted increase in the cost of living.

On Tuesday, Mr. Hobhouse, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, stated that "The Government have decided that the rise in the cost of living is not by itself a sufficient reason at the present time for increasing the wages of their employés."

SHAKESPEARE FOR THE PEOPLE.

"Hamlet" at the Royal Victoria Hall.

If there are those who believe that the poor do not appreciate good acting and the highest class of plays, when they are brought within their means, they should pay a visit to the Royal Victoria Hall, Waterloo Road, and see a Shakespearean play excellently performed before the most appreciative audience any actor or actress could desire. When "Hamlet" was played there the other evening it was a revelation to note the extraordinary grip of the play displayed by the audience : none of the points were missed, and there was ample evidence that the people knew their Shakespeare well. Judging by the remarks, many had seen this play two or three times, and the applause after every scene was tremendous. When one realises that the audience comes from the poorest class, the minimum price being 2d. a seat, it must be agreed that the result of this venture has been wonderful. The success of the Victoria Hall has proved that the people can, and do, appreciate art in its highest form, and too much praise cannot be given to Miss Baylis for the splendid work she has done in bringing such art within the means of the very poorest.

For the special Shakespeare's Birthday Festival Matinée the gallery has been taken by the L.C.C. for children, and prizes will be given for the best essay on the plays.

On Friday evening "Macbeth" will be performed at 7.45, produced by Ben Greet. The season ends on Saturday, May 1st, but will recommence in September.

PIONEER PLAYERS.

It is definitely arranged that the Pioneer Players will produce "Exchange," the play by Paul Claudel, which has been translated into English by Dr. Rowland Sharnam, at the Little Theatre on Sunday evening, May 2nd. There are four acts and one scene in the play, which is being produced by Miss Edith Craig. The characters are : An Actress, Miss Auriol Lee ; An American Business Man, Mr. Stanley Turnbull ; A Wife, Miss Cathleen Nesbitt ; and A Husband, Mr. Eric Stroan. The name of Paul Claudel is practically unknown to the English public, but in France he has been hailed as a genius, and his plays, which are original both in form and substance, have been spoken of by men of letters as of amazing literary, as well as dramatic, value.

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N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITAL.

Serbia.

The chief preoccupation of the week has been the preparations for sending off Dr. Alice Hutchison's Unit to Serbia. Including tents and bedsteads, no fewer than 1,051 bales and cases are being shipped on to the transport, so it is no exaggeration to say that the equipment sent is extensive and complete. Forty-five persons are travelling with Dr. Hutchison, of whom six nurses are destined to join Dr. Soltau's unit. Dr. Elsie Inglis, the indefatigable promoter of the Hospital scheme, is herself starting for Serbia, about April 23rd, travelling overland in order to reach as soon as possible the fever-stricken town of Kraguievatz. She will carry with her the heartiest good wishes of the multitudes whom she has rendered enthusiastic for the National Union's work of healing amongst the Allies.

France.

New Unit.—This is to be installed at Troyes, an interesting old French town, about forty miles from the front. The "locale" has been changed from the factory Vagbeaux, which was to have been adapted for hospital uses, to the Château de Chauteloup. This Château is beautifully situated, and there is ample room in the grounds for tents or "baraquements." In these the patients will be accommodated, whilst the staff is housed in the Château. A bacteriological laboratory is to be one of the features of the Troyes Hospital, under the care of Dr. Ellen Porter, of Stafford. General de Torcy and the French military authorities are extending a hearty welcome to this new Hospital, which the Croix Rouge Francaise have long been anxious for us to start.

Gifts in kind as follows will be gratefully received by Dr. Elsie Inglis at 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or at 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W. They should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the donors.

Clothing, &c., Required for the Hospitals.

Bed jackets, dressing gowns, bedroom slippers, pyjamas (flannel and cotton), day shirts (flannel and cotton), blankets (old and new), draw sheets, feather pillows, sheets, towels of all sorts, pillow cases, helpless case shirts, pants, vests, hot-water bottles (rubber), hot-water bottle covers.

Donations to the Hospital.

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward ...	18,680	4	1½
Spey Aven and Fiddichside Farmer Club, per R. Dick Stuart, Esq., Sec. (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Mrs. and the Misses Low ...	14	0	0
Collected by Mrs. A. M. Mitchell (see Supplementary List)	8	0	0
Collected by Miss Gowan and Miss Mitchell, for the "Merchiston" Beds (Previously acknowledged: Mr. Winkler, £1—Total £95 10s. 6d.) (Serbia)	94	10	6
The Misses Hogarth Pringle and Friends, per Dr. A. Louise McIlroy (to name the "Southern Cross" Bed, 3rd French Unit)	50	0	0
Per Dr. A. Louise McIlroy (for Serbia): — The Headmaster and Staff, Victoria Dr. Higher Grade School, Scotstoun, per James Barr, Esq. (£3), the Misses Young (£4 4s.), Dr. R. C. Robertson (£5 5s.), Miss McCoart (5s.), "Anonymous" (10s.), W. Loudon Dunn, Esq. (£1) (France)	14	4	0
Miss Weir (Kraguievatz) ...	5	5	6
"Brother Ogboss" (Serbia) ...	15	0	0
Teachers of Gourock Central and Higher Grade Schools, per R. Fulton, Esq., F.E.I.S. (Serbia—Additional)	3	0	0
Miss M. A. Cunningham (Serbia)	2	2	0
Per Mrs. Leonard Tod (Serbia): — Mrs. Moffat (£1 1s.), Mrs. Hood (£5), Provost Gilchrist (£2), Charles Cowan, Esq. (£5), Miss K. M. Cowan (£1), Miss L. M. Cowan (£1), Miss E. L. Cowan (£1), Miss Stewart (£10), Mrs. Grosvenor Stewart (£1 1s.), Mrs. Burdon (£1), Household at Pittendrigh (7s. 6d.), Mrs. Blount (10s.), Mr. Tait (5s.), Saved from Easter Egg Money for Serbia (10s.) ...	29	14	6
Mrs. De Courcy Calderwood (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss M. E. Balfour	1	0	0
Miss Nora Furrell		10	0
Perth Lady Teachers' War Guild, per Miss B. P. Batchelor (Serbia)	2	10	0
Mrs. Carr (towards "Sybil" Bed, France)		10	0
Mrs. Heron (Serbia)	5	0	0
Miss Alice Kemp	5	5	0
"A Grateful Patient" (towards the "Charlotte Square" Bed)	3	0	0
Good Friday Collection, Augustine Congregational Church, George IV. Bridge, per John Grant, Esq. (Serbia)	5	1	3
Mrs. Henderson (Serbia) ...		2	0
Miss McLellan (Serbia) ...		2	6
Members of Dunbar Bible Class, per the Rev. J. White (Serbia)		10	0
Miss F. L. Walker (France) ...	1	0	0
"I. R. M. L." (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Hadwen	1	1	0
Rev. P. K. and Mrs. Batchan (Serbia)	2	2	0
The Staff of Drumlanrig Public School, per Robert Stirling, Esq. (Serbia) ...	1	9	0
The Misses Symington (Serbia)	2	0	0
Rev. J. W. and Mrs. Shannon (Serbia)	2	0	0
Mrs. J. M. Scott Moncrieff ...	5.	0	0
Per Mrs. Kirkland (to complete "Glenfarg" Bed, Serbia): — Previously acknowledged (£35 3s. 6d.), Mrs. Rufus Pullar (£5 5s.), Mrs. Curran (£1), Mrs. Boyd (£17 16s.), Sums under 5s. (15s. 6d.)—Total, £50	14	16	6
Mrs. Wm. Brown	25	0	0
Sunderland W.S.S., per Mrs. Mundella (for "Sunderland" Bed, Serbia):—Mr. R. A. Bartram, J.P. (£20), Mrs. A. E. Common (£5), Mrs. Walford Common (£5), Mrs. C. J. Cyres (£5), Mrs. A. Johnson (£2 4s. 6d.), "Suffragist" (£2 2s.), Mrs. White (£2 2s.), Mrs. Gaines and Friends (£1 6s.), Miss Milbanke (£1 1s.), Mrs. Mundella (£1 1s.), "Anon." (£1), "Anon." (£1), Mrs. Garrick (10s. 6d.), Miss M. M. Gibson (10s. 6d.), Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Hooper (10s. 6d.), Mrs. G. Charlton (10s.), Mrs. Dove (10s.), Miss M. F. Hogben (10s.), Miss A. M. Rhind (10s.), Sums under 5s. (18s.)	51	6	0
"A Sympathiser," per Miss Stephenson (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Steen (to name "Lilley Smith" Bed)	30	0	0
Mrs. F. M. Dawes	10	10	0
Miss B. S. Bell (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
Mrs. J. S. Miller (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Margaret Kennedy ...	7	11	0
Upton-on-Severn W.S.S., per Miss Medley:—Mrs. Woodward (Serbia)	1	0	0
Winchester W.S.S., per Mrs. Souter (4th instalment) ...	5	13	0
Miss E. May	2	0	0
Mrs. Bonar (2nd donation—Serbia)	10	0	0
Mrs. C. Davidson (Serbia) ...	1	10	0
Dr. Edith Nield (Serbia) ...	5	5	0
"A Member, N.U.W.S.S." ...	50	0	0
Per Mrs. Mackintosh (for "Charlotte Square Institution" Beds)	112	0	0
Collected by the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield (further instalment—Serbia)	4	0	0
Miss Cook (Serbia)	5	0	0
"An Old Friend," per Mrs. Shaw McLaren	1	0	0
The Office Staff, Leith, Hull, and Hamburg Steam Packet Co., Ltd., per Peter Reid, Esq. (further donation) ...	1	18	0
Mrs. Cram		10	0
Mrs. Murdoch, per Mrs. Sime (Serbia)		2	0
Mrs. Holmes (Serbia)		5	0
Edinburgh Flag Day, held on February 27th, per Miss Mair	730	4	1
The Newington Work Party, per Mrs. Gunn (for the "Princess Helena" Bed—already acknowledged, £4)	46	0	0
St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh—The High Church Kirk Session, per Mrs. Wallace Williamson	31	10	0
Robert Whyte, Esq.	5	0	0
Part Proceeds of Gourock Flag Day, per Mrs. Clatworthy, Hon. Treas., Gourock W.S.S.	10	0	0
Per Mrs. Clatworthy, Hon. Treas., Gourock W.S.S.:—Miss Harvey	1	0	0
Mrs. Brown		5	0
The Teachers of Haddington Primary School, per Miss J. Riddell	2	0	0
Active Service Fund, N.U.W.S.S.: — Sutton Coldfield and District W.S.S., "In Memory of their late President, Miss Earl (£3 3s.) (Serbia), Miss Jessie Ellerby (£1) (Serbia), Mrs. Joshua (£1 1s.) (Serbia), Miss Barbara Forth (£1 10s.) (Serbia), Warrington Technical Institute and Secondary School, part proceeds of Bazaar got up by Children (£20) (Serbia), Miss J. M. Hervey (£2) (Serbia), Lady Jardine, An Easter Offering (£1) (France), Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Wilson, 2nd donation (2s.) (Serbia), Headmistress and Staff, County Secondary School, Streatham (£3) (Serbia), Collected by Miss Helen J. Nidd (£11 11s.) (Serbia), Mrs. A. Frere (£1 1s.) (Serbia), Mr. Arthur Orr (£1) (Serbia), Miss Margaret Puller (£5) (Serbia), Mrs. Crossley (£5) (Serbia), Mrs. Craig (5s.) (Serbia) Total	56	13	0
"Anonymous"	5	0	0
Miss A. M. Allan (Serbia) ...	10	0	0
Mr. T. S. Norris (France) ...		1	0
Brentwood W.S.S., per Miss H. E. Wild, Hon. Treas. (Serbia)	5	0	0
Collected—Mrs. Burton (Serbia)	1	8	0
Mrs. Hope		10	0
Bath W.S.S., per Miss Eve M. Lawson:—Total to date, £41 1s. 2d. (Serbia), "2d. from Jim, instead of an Easter Egg"	16	1	2
The Misses M. and E. Jackson		10	0
"A Widow," Edinburgh (Serbia)		5	0
Miss Skyme	4	0	0
Eben Gentleman, Esq. ...	0	10	0
Frederick Bradbury, Esq. (Abbaye)	10	0	0
The Staff of Bruntsfield Public School, per T. J. Robertson, Esq. (Serbia)	2	7	6
"Two Old Pupils" (for the "Charlotte Square" Bed) ...	0	5	0
Mr. J. A. Brown, per Mrs. Tod	0	2	6
Collected by Miss Cornwall (for "Drumsheugh" Bed):—Miss Davidson (£1), Mr. and Mrs. Hector Smith (£2 2s.), Mrs. and Miss Thomson (£2), Mrs. Melvin (£1), Lady Pearson (£1), Lady Fraser 10s.), Mrs. and Miss Thomson (7s.), Prof. and Mrs. A. Thomson £2 2s.), Mr. George Dalziel (£5), Mrs. Dalziel (£3), Mr. N. P. Dalziel (£2), Dr. and Mrs. Bramwell (£2 2s.), Mrs. Bruce (£1), Lord Anderson (£1), Mrs. Wilson (£1), Miss Bourdass (£2 2s.), Mrs. Fleming (£1), Mrs. Watson (10s.), Mrs. Baillie (10s.), Mr. Girdwood (£1 1s.), Mrs. Chapman (5s.), Miss Ballantine (1s.), Rev. J. Durran (4s.), Lord Dewar (£2 2s.), Mrs. Carr Lees (£1), Mr. Watson (10s.), Mr. J. Cornwall (£2 2s.), Miss Snowden (2s. 6d.), Miss Elgin (£1 1s.), The Hon. Lord Dundas (£1), Mr. Warrack (£2), "A Friend" (4s.), Collected, per Mrs. G. Berry (£7), Miss Cornwall (£2 2s. 6d.)	50	0	0
Per Bristol W.S.S.:—Mrs. Randall Vickers (for Bed, for three months at Royaumont, "Randall Vickers") ...	25	0	0
"Two Friends," per Miss Baker (for "Sheffield" 2nd Bed—Serbia)	25	0	0
Per Miss Blane:—Proceeds of Meetings, and £5 from the Nairn Operatic Society (Serbia)	12	6	7
Per Miss Mary A. Greswell, Hon. Sec., Burnham W.S.S.—Result of Jumble Sale held in Burnham (Serbia) ...	6	0	0
The Staff of Broughton H.G. School, Edinburgh, per A. P. Gray, Esq. (Serbia)	13	5	6
Henry Jeffery, Esq.	5	5	0
Mrs. Dickson	5	0	0
Scottish Mothers' Union, Dairy U.F.C. Branch, per Mrs. Aitken (Serbia)	3	6	0
Mrs. J. L. Peacock (Serbia) ...	2	2	0
Miss Mackintosh	1	10	0
"Two Sympathisers" (Serbia)	1	5	0
Manchester Branch, Halley's Industrial Motors, Ltd., per J. G. Pearson, Esq., District Manager (1st weekly instalment)	1	2	6
W. N. Dixon, Esq. (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Oundle and District W.S.S., per Miss F. B. Mackmurdo (further donation—Serbia) ...		10	0
Miss Mary Cameron (Serbia)		10	0
Miss F. E. Ingram, Hon. Sec., Whitby W.S.S.		5	0
Per Mrs. Mitchell: — Mrs. William Thomson (further contribution—Serbia) ...		3	0
Mrs. Carslaw (additional for Serbia)	2	2	0
Gilbertfield Co-op. Soc., Ltd., per R. Scott, Esq.	3	0	0
Miss E. Rae (for Field Kitchen)	0	2	6
Oxon. Berks., and Bucks. Federation, per Mrs. R. H. Berney, Hon. Treas.:—Mid Bucks. W.S.S. (to name the "Mid Bucks." Bed) (£25). Further instal. from the High Wycombe W.S.S.: Miss Taylor (£1 1s.), Darsie Gillie (1s. 3d.), Biggleswade W.S.S. (5s.) (both to to be added to the 1st instal. from the Fed.) ...	26	7	3
Redding Co-op. Soc., Ltd., per A. Smart, Esq.	10	0	0
Further donations received to April 17th, 1915:—			
Per Mrs. Fraser (for "*Fraser*" Bed) (See List)	40	1	0
Eddisbury W.S.S. and Friends, per Miss Marjory Burgess, Hon. Sec. (Serbia) (See List)	7	0	0
Mrs. Barham (Serbia)	3	3	0
Miss Todd (Serbia)	2	0	0
Committee of Duns Ladies' Reading Circle, per Miss Falconer (Serbia)	1	8	0
Mrs. Stallybrass (Serbia) ...	2	0	0
For the Mobile Hospitals ...	1	0	0
Miss C. Brunton (Serbia) ...		10	0
Miss Black		10	0
Kimberworth Sanatorium, per Miss Garvie		5	0
"Kilmacolm"		5	0
Mrs. J. Inglis Clark (Serbia)		4	0
Miss R. Hannan Watson (A Member of the N.U.W.S.S.)		2	6
Mrs. Massen	5	0	0
"Anonymous"	2	0	0
Staff of the Girls' Secondary School, Stockton-on-Tees, per Miss Nelson	1	1	0
Mrs. Campbell (Serbia) ...	2	2	0
Miss Lumsden, LL.D. (further contribution—Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Mrs. Ellingsen (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Wm. N. Bain, Esq.	2	10	0
Paisley W.S.S., per Miss Todd (Serbia)	25	0	0
Grahamston and Bamsford Co-operative Society, Ltd., per A. J. Irvine, Esq., Sec.	1	0	0
Miss E. M. Greg	5	0	0
Hawick W.S.S., per Miss Williamson (Serbia) ...	50	0	0
Per Mrs. Wilson, Hon. Treas., Edinburgh W.S.S.: — John Brunton, Esq. (for Sewing-machine—Serbia)	5	5	0
J. H. (Serbia)		1	0
Crowthorne W.S.S., Mrs. Lavie	5	0	0
Miss E. Lindsay	7	0	0
R. Milnes, Esq. (Serbia) ...		5	0
Per the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	2	0	0
Miss A. M. Hewitt (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Miss Stirling (Serbia)	5	0	0
Per Miss Stirling:—Dr. Robert Stirling (Serbia)	5	0	0
Collected by Miss Hindshaw		10	0
Miss Menzies, per Miss J. Menzies	2	0	0
Miss J. E. Bateson (France)	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Pollok (Serbia)	10	0	0
Miss Yule (Serbia)		10	0
"A Sympathiser" (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Per Miss Whyte: Miss Hilda Matheson (towards "*Matheson*" Bed—Serbia) ...		10	0
Kilmarnock W.S.S., per Mrs. Robertson (complete "*Kilmarnock Ailsa*" Bed) (See List)	14	11	6
Mrs. Churchill	1	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Per Mr. Paterson, Balance of "Allies" Flag Day, Edinburgh:—The Misses Hutchison Stirling (£1 5s.), Miss E. A. Annandale (10s.), Miss N. A. J. Annandale (10s.), Miss McCall (10s.), Miss Denholm (5s.)	3	0	0
Mrs. Stark	5	0	0
Staff of Halley's Industrial Motors, Ltd. (Manchester Branch), per J. G. Pearson, Esq. (2nd donation) ...	1	2	6
Miss B. Hutt (Serbia)	1	10	0
Barnstaple W.S.S., per Miss S. M. Adams, Hon. Sec.:—Mrs. Campbell (Serbia) ...		10	0
Per Miss Mair (Serbia):—Gift from Leith Unionist Bazaar, per Arthur Callendar, Esq. (£25), Mrs. Grieve (£5), Miss E. H. Begbie (£1 5s.), Miss M. S. Cooper (£1), Miss Lees (£1), Miss Copeland (7s. 6d.), J. C. (£20), Miss Blair (£13 12s., towards "*Randolph Crescent*" Bed), "Anon." (10s.)	67	14	6
Per Miss Mair:—Miss Sinclair (towards "*Grange*" Bed) ...	9	5	0
Miss M. E. Smith (Serbia) ...		2	6
Per Mrs. Walker:—Mrs. Sedgwick (Serbia)	1	0	0
Dunfermline W.S.S., per Mrs. Mackinnon, Hon. Sec. (Serbia)	3	0	0
Mrs. Combe (for "*Clarendon Crescent*" Bed—France) (£10 previously acknowledged) ...	40	0	0
Per Mrs. Robertson:—Mr. Wm. Cameron (for "*Kilmarnock Ailsa*" Bed) ...	2	0	0
Miss J. M. Drummond (Serbia)	1	0	0
Teachers of Central Council School, Leeds, per W. A. Finch, Esq. (Serbia)	2	0	4
"Anon." (towards "*Jessie*" Bed)		2	0
"Kentucky Boy," per K. M. (Serbia)	5	0	0
Miss M. G. Campbell (Serbia)	2	0	0
Mrs. Maclean (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Stewart (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Purdie (2nd donation—Serbia)	25	0	0
The Misses Christie (Serbia)	10	0	0
Proceeds of Exhibition of Dancing by Juvenile Pupils of Mr. and Miss Glendinning	10	0	0
Mrs. Grant (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss J. McLaren (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Collection taken at an "At Home" given by the Ladies of Carnoustie in Holyrood Hall, per Miss Robertson (Serbia)	6	10	0
Mrs. McGibbon (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
Staff of Trinity Public School, Hawick, per Walter Hume, Esq. (Serbia)		17	6
Assistant Staff of Northmoor Council School, per Chas. Jackson, Esq.	1	10	0
Mrs. Matheson	5	0	0
Mr. A. Anderson, per Miss Jessie Burnside		2	6
Miss Shaw	1	0	0
Mrs. Edmunds (Serbia) ...		10	6
Mrs. M. H. Harmer (2nd donation)		10	0
Per Mrs. Tod:—Lady Melville (10s.), Mrs. Stewart Robertson (2s. 6d.), Miss J. Burnbrae (10s.), Mrs. Grubb (5s.), Mr. W. L. and Mrs. Tod (£6)	7	7	6
"Anon." (Serbia)		5	0
"Anon." (Serbia)	1	0	0
Mrs. Mowat, per City of Edinburgh C.O.S.	1	0	0
Per Robert Milne, Esq. (collected for Serbia)	5	17	6
"A Friend," per Mrs. Thoms	5	0	0
"The Knightsville College" War Fund, per Miss Jarvis (Serbia)	3	0	0
"A Friend," per Miss Philips (Serbia)	5	0	0
Per Miss Annie Stark:—Jas. Stark, Esq. (£5 10s.), the Misses Stark (£4), Jas. Moffat, Esq. (10s.) (Serbia)	10	0	0
Miss E. Purves (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Aberdeen Subscribers, per Mrs. Soddy (Serbia)—£25 from the Committee of the Patriotic Fund, for an "*Auchterless*" Bed	130	0	0
"A Friend"	2	2	6
Mid. Lanark Women's Unionist Association, per Miss Gray Buchanan, Hon. Treas. (for two Beds in France and one in Serbia, to be called "*1, 2, 3, Mid. Lanark Women's Unionist Association*" Beds)	150	0	0
Per Mrs. Fraser:—Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fraser (for "*Fraser*" Bed)		5	0
Miss K. B. Marquis (Serbia)	1	0	0
Per Mrs. Allan (Proceeds of Cake and Candy Sale and Flag Day—Serbia)	183	12	6
Mrs. Sturroch	2	2	0
Colonel J. E. Baillie, Inverness R.H.A.	2	0	0
Blairmore and Strone W.S.S. (Proceeds of Jumble Sale), per Miss Jeanie Mackay (Serbia)	32	0	0
Miss L. Davey (Serbia) ...	1	0	0
Old Students of Dundas Vale Gymnasium, per Miss Jessie Wilson (Serbia)	2	15	0
W. E. Newboult, Esq. (Serbia)		10	0
Miss I. P. Begg	5	0	0
Miss Stewart (Serbia)	2	0	0
A. Grierson, Esq.	1	0	0
Miss E. Dora Lee (Serbia) ...		2	6
Miss Hannay (Serbia)	1	0	0
Miss Catriona MacLeod (Serbia)	1	15	0
Mrs. Robertson (Serbia) ...		10	0
"Five Members of Staff Prison Commission for Scotland," per J. Fulton, Esq. (Serbia)	3	4	6
Staff of Labour Exchange, per Miss Hart		13	8
Mrs. Auchterlonie (Serbia) ...	5	0	0
Proceeds of Concert, per Miss Dora Walker (Serbia) ...	2	10	0
Mrs. J. A Brown (Serbia) ...		5	0
Total to date ...	£21,696	17	3½

Supplementary List.

Per Mrs. Fleming, Hon. Sec., Kelso W.S.S. (for "Kelso Margarets" Beds in Serbian and French Units):—

£4 each.—Margaret H. L. Clark, "M.H."

£2 each.—Mr. and Mrs. Elliot Scott, Miss M. T. B. Tait.

£1 1s. each.—Margaret Moubray, Mrs. Madge Shaw, Mrs. K. L. Craig, Mr. Bathgate.

£1 each.—Margaret Carruthers, Mrs. G. E. Philip, Miss Margaret Oliver, Mrs. Robertson Grant, Mrs. M. R. Pallison, Mrs. T. Lillie, "I.M.O. Dear Margie," Margaret Duncruin, Mrs. M. M. Turnbull, Miss Douglas, Mrs. Margaret Smith, D. Dunn, Mrs. McArthur, Mrs. Reid, Mrs. Johnston, Miss Margaret W. Hardy, Mrs. Margaret Cooper, Margaret Bonar, Mrs. Erskine, J. O. Fairlie, Mrs. Margaret Mitchell, Margaret Walker, Mrs. Black, Margaret Chambers, "One of Them," "Margaret—two years old," "I.M.O. a dear Margaret," Mrs. Meta Nicholson, Mrs. M. V. Wood, Mrs. Margaret Lauder, P. Gifford, Esq., Mrs. M. Lowden, "I.M.O. My Mother."

15s.—Miss Ritchie.

12s. 6d.—"I.M.O. a St. Margaret—died in 1888."

10s. 6d.—"U. F. L. P."

10s. each.—Mrs. Home Rigg, Margaret McLeod, Margaret W. Hunter, Mrs. MacTier, Miss Margaret Caldet, Miss A. M. Younger, Miss Margaret Y. Lorimer, Miss Margaret A. Bertram, Mrs. Daisy Croall, Mr. Smith, Allan Stevson, Esq., Mrs. Laidlaw, Rev. J. Laidlaw, Mrs. Mather, Mrs. Watson, Mrs. O. Rowe, Mrs. Margaret C. Macdonald, Mrs. Margaret Moncrieff, M. K. Bryce, D. Henderson Hamilton, "Margaret," Mr. and Mrs. M. Crichton, Mrs Moyna, "I.M.O. Margaret, our Mother," Mrs. Margaret Gifford Houghton Mrs. Margaret B Clark, Mrs. M. S. Tait, Mrs. Daisy Lay, Mrs. Irwin Smart, Mrs. Bromfield, "Anonymous," Margaret C. Kerr, Miss M. C. Nicholson, Mrs. Stuart Johnson, J. J. Hardy, Esq., Mrs. Brown, Miss Margaret Gifford, "I.M.O. Margaret Gifford," Miss Margaret McLauchlin, Mrs. M. B. Dick, Maisie, Margaret, Morag, and Roderick MacLeod, Miss Lorimer, Miss M. A. Munro.

9s.—"Margarets" at Leith Academy—collected by M. E. Macdonald Clark.

8s. 6d.—Collected by Mrs. M. C. B. Gray.

7s. 6d. each.—Margaret McConnochie, Miss A. B. Mechie, Mrs. Dickie, Miss Margaret Lyal.

7s.—"Three Margarets."

6s. 6d.—Miss McCaw.

6s. each.—Miss K. W. Barker, "Margaret."

5s. 6d.—M. Dunn.

5s. each.—Margaret Chisholm, Margaret A. Rennie, Rita Barber, Margaret Pringle, "Two Margarets," "Two Margarets," Miss Margaret Rintoul, Miss Margaret Sanderson, Mrs. Margaret Thomson, Miss M. R. Allan, Mrs. Madge J. Colam, Miss Margaret G. Thomson, Mrs. Margaret Drysdale, Mrs. Margaret H. Beveridge, Mr. Beveridge, Margaret Robertson, "I.M.O. Margaret Cochrine," A. M. Clement, Miss Margaret Cowan, Agnes Marshall, Mrs. Bowdler, Mrs Rutherford, Mrs. Margaret Renton Kirkwood, Elsa Margaret Gilchrist, Mrs. Margaret Mackenzie, Mary Anderson, Mrs. M. Prüden, Miss Deas, Miss Margaret Ogilvie, Margaret H. Tulloch, Mrs. Cunningham, Miss M. F. Mill, Rev. W. White, Margaret Forsyth, Mrs. Margaret Charles, Miss Margaret Tweedie, Miss Margaret Bartie, Mrs. M. D. Nisbet, M. D. Mitchell, Mrs. Margaret McClelland, Margaret Allan, Mrs M. Craig, Miss Peggie Pearson, Margaret Wright, Mrs. Margaret S. Forgan, Mrs. Margaret Rintoul, H. M. Greenhill, Margaret Graham, Miss M. J. Fraser, M. R. Keir, Miss Marjory Lawrence, Mrs. Margaret Caldwell, Andrew Duncan, Esq., "A Margaret," Margaret G. Glass, "A Madge," Mrs. M. W. Sanson, Mrs. Margaret Leven, Miss G. Newton, Margaret J. Weir, Mrs. Craig, "J.W., for Mother, Daughter, and Grand-daughter," "A Scottish Margaret—I. M. O Madge Neill Fraser," Mrs. G. Thorburn, Mrs. M. W. Easton, M. W. Harvey, "A Ross-shire Woman—I.M.O. a Dear Sister Margaret,"

4s.—"Two Margarets."

3s. 6d each.—Mrs. J. Wood, Mrs. Christie, Margaret M. Turnbull, Margaret W. Ross.

3s each.—Margaret R. Fairbairn, Mrs. Margaret Brown, Margaret Porteous, Mrs. M. B. Will, Miss Margaret Stewart, Miss Paton.

2s. 6d. each.—Margaret May Hunter, Margaret Shepherd, Mrs. C. Watson, Miss I. M. Watson, Mrs. Sanderson, Margaret Sanderson, Marjorie Fleming, Margaret E. Torrie, Miss Peggie Somerville, Miss Madge Laing, Hannah Wilson, Helen Butler, Mrs. Margaret Davidson, Margaret Turnbull, Margaret Smith, Miss Margaret Stark, Margaret Riddle, Mrs. Margaret Bennett, Mrs. Daisy Brownlee, Marjorie Brownlee, Margaret Allan, Maggie Nichol, Margaret A. Marr, "Margarita," Mrs. W. D. Kinnear, M. B. P. McLaren, "Margot," Miss Margaret White, Miss Meg Usher, Miss Margaret Davidson, Margaret Grier, Mrs. E. Gibson, Mrs. Robertson, Miss Margaret E. Beaton, Miss M. Graham, "A Margaret," Mrs. Margaret Grant, Margaret McCulloch, Margaret Glahorne, Miss Margaret Eliott Lockhart, "Margaret," Margaret Knox Macpherson, Miss M. J. M. Logan, Margaret Scott, Miss Margaret G. Inglis, Mrs. Margaret Currie, "A Margaret," Margaret Henderson, Mrs. Margaret Humphrey, "A North Berwick Margaret," Margaret Allan, Margaret Ferrier Monro, Miss Margaret Vere Brodie, Miss Tennant, "Margaret," Mrs. Gemmill, Miss Margaret McLeod, "Little Margaret," "A Margaret," Margaret Black, Miss Mitchell, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. J. D. Dunne, "Margaret," Margaret Alexander, Margaret Ridpath, "For Margarets that I Love," "Margaret," Miss Margaret Carswell, Margaret Majendy, Mrs. Evan Nepean, Mrs. Magdalene Clark, Marjery Brown—a Little Girlie.

2s. each.—Margaret C. Forrester, Margaret M. Lees, "Margaret," Margaret Dobbie, "Margaret," Margaret Mitchell, Miss Lawson, Miss Margaret Sharp, Misses Someville, "M. D. T." Cessford, Miss Madge Mein, Margaret Douglas, Margaret Weir, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Scott, junr., Mrs. Cairns, Mrs. M. L. D. McLatchie, Margaret H. Irvine, Miss Wright, "Another Margaret," Mrs. Margaret Wallace, Mrs. Margaret S. Scott, Miss Margaret Carr, "Auntie Maggie," Margaret Munro, Margaret Barrie, Margaret H. Anderson, Margaret A. Gunn, "Margaret," "St. Margaret," "Margaret," Margaret A. Cockburn, Marjory M. Bell, Miss Margaret Williams, Margaret Alexander, "Another Margaret," Margaret Morrison.

1s. 6d. each.—Margaret Hood, Margaret H. Phemister.

1s. each.—Margaret Ralston, Margaret McDougall, Margaret Carroll, Margaret Ritchie, Margaret Mitchell, Margaret Balmain, Margaret E. Hunter, Margaret Hislop, Margaret Findlay, Mrs. Margaret Scott, Margaret B. Dewar, "Margaret," Margaret Campbell, Margaret Philip, Mrs. Margaret McQuillan, Mrs. Margaret Anderson, Miss Maggie Sinclair, Miss Margaret Williamson, "Margaret," Miss C. M. Johnson, Mrs. Margaret Stailer, Mrs. Margaret Gifford, Miss Margaret B. Gifford, M. B. Dick, Margaret Lane, Margaret Stewart, "Margaret," "A Margaret," Margaret A. C. Gray, "A Margaret," "A Margaret," Margaret R. T., Margaret G. Robertson, Margaret B. Jackson, "Margaret," Miss Margaret I. M. Gordon, J. Margaret Hison, W. A. Margaret Lehman, "A Friend," "Margaret," Margaret I. Fleming, Mrs. Margaret Lennox, Mrs. Margaret Douglas, "Rita," Margaret Lamb, Margaret Robertson, Margaret Hogg.

6d. each—Maggie Dodds, Margaret Boyd, Margaret Lamb, "Daisy."

8s. 6d.—Dr. A. D. Fleming.

Total, £110.

Collection for "Fraser" Bed, per Mrs. Willa Fraser:—

Lord Lovat (£2), Capt. Hon. Alister Fraser and Lady Sybil Fraser (£5), Mrs. Stirling (£1 1s.), Mrs. Fraser Mackintosh (£5), R. Fraser Mackenzie, Esq. (£1), Miss Fraser (10s.), Mrs. Todd (£1), Dr. J. S. Fraser (£1 1s.), Mrs. Fraser (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Wm. Fraser (10s.), Mrs. Adam (5s.), Mrs. Fraser (£1), Mr. and Mrs. Harrow (£1 1s.), Mrs. Fraser (5s.), Mr. C. Fraser (5s.), Rev. and Mrs. Fraser (5s.), Rev. and Mrs. Nicholson (5s.), Miss Symington (10s.), Miss MacLean (10s.), Miss A. Corbett (10s.), Mrs. Fraser (5s.), Established Church Work Party (14s.), Mrs. Fraser (1s.), Miss C. Fraser (1s.), Mrs. Ramsay Kinellan (2s.), Mrs. Macgregor (2s. 6d.), Miss Grassich (4s.), Mrs. Macrae (1s.), Mrs. W. Y. Duncan (5s.), Mr. John Fraser (5s.), Mr. Rod Hay (10s. 6d.), Mr. K. Hay (10s.), Mr. A. Mackenzie (5s.), the Misses Fraser (10s. 6d.), Miss C. Fraser (5s.), Mr. Alec Fraser (£2), Mr. G. M. Fraser (5s.), Rev. and Mrs. John Fraser (£1), Miss M. Fraser (2s.), Mr. H. D. Fraser (2s. 6d.), the Misses Fraser (£2), Mr. and Mrs. Fraser (£1), Mrs. Fraser (2s. 6d.), the Misses Fraser (5s.), Miss M. Fraser (5s.), Miss Greenfield (5s.), Miss Ronald (£1), Mr. Norman Fraser (£1), Dr. MacGilvray (10s. 6d.), Miss E. Fraser (2s.), Miss McArthur (5s.), Miss E. Fraser Hyslop (5s.), Mr. C. Fraser (£1), Miss A. Hay (7s. 6d.), Miss Fraser-Anderson (2s.), Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Fraser (10s. 6d.), Mrs. Fraser (£1 8s. 6d.). Total £40.

Collection towards "Kilmarnock Ailsa" Bed, per Mrs. Robertson:—

Net proceeds of Lecture in Dick Institute (£4 4s.), Mrs. Brown (£1 1s.), Miss Rowler (£2), "A Friend" (£1), M. D. C. (£1), Mrs. Robert Wylie (£1 1s.), Mr. John Nicol (5s.), Mr. John D. Wylie (5s.), Mr. David Carruthers, junr. (5s.), Mr. A. B. Robertson (2s. 6d.), Mr. Wm. Johnstone (2s.), Mr. J. McLarty (2s. 6d.), Mr. A. M. R. Anderson (2s.), Mr. J. Porter (1s.), Mr. Wm. Calderwood (6s.), Mr. Alex. Stevenson (5s.), Mr. E. S. Taylor and a Friend (6s.), Mr. Jas. Watson (2s 6d.), the Misses Campbell Craigie (7s. 6d.), A. A. (1s.). Total £14 11s. 6d.

Collection for "Clarendon Crescent" Bed, per Mrs. Combe:—

Anonymous (£10), Mrs Combe (£5), Mrs. Clark (£5), Mrs. Macdonald (£1 1s.), Mrs. R Liston Banks (£1), Mrs. Macqueen (£3), Miss Forrester (5s.), Miss Spence (10s.), Mrs. Beilby (£5), Mrs. Wood (2s. 6d.), Mrs. Carlyle Gifford (£1), Anonymous (£1), Mrs. Sanderson (5s.), Agnes G. D. Finlay (5s.), Mrs. Campbell Smith (£1), Mrs. Stuart (£2), Mr. McIntosh (£5), Miss M. Young (£1), Mrs. Combe, 2nd contribution (£7 11s. 6d.). Total £50.

Collection for "Cheshire Suffragists' " Bed, per Miss Simpson (2nd donation):—

Birkenhead Suffrage Society and Friends (£21), Bramhall and Cheadle Hulme Society (£1 10s.), Members of the Chester Society Committee (£4), Congleton Society (£1 10s.), Romiley W.S.S. (£2 2s.), Members of the Stockport Society (£2 4s. 6d.), Members of the Whaley Bridge and District W.S.S. (£3 7s.), Wimslow Society (£1), Miss Grey (£1), Mrs. Forrest Hewit (£1), Winsford Society (10s.). Total £39 3s. 6d.

Collected for "Randolph Bed," per Miss Blair:—

Dr. Thyne (£2 2s.), H. A. Blair, Esq. (£2 2s.), Mrs. Blair (£2), Miss Blair (£1), Mrs. James (£1), W. D. Lowe, Esq. (£1 1s.), "A Friend" (10s.), Mrs. Inglis (10s.), Mrs. Leitch (£2 2s.), Miss Maitland (5s.)	£13	12	0
Already acknowledged—M. Montgomery Bell, Esq. ...	5	0	0
Total ...	£18	12	0

Collected for "Grange Bed," per Miss Sinclair:—

Mrs. Stewart (£1), Mrs. Macfarlane (10s.), Mrs. Leslie Usher (5s.), Mrs. Rankine (£1 1s.), Duncan Maclaren, Esq. (£1), Mrs. Buchanan (5s.), Mrs. Baxter (10s.), Mrs. Consland (5s.), Mrs. Calder (£1 1s.), Mr. and Mrs. Louden (£1), K. D. (5s.), Anonymous (Serbia) (£1), Sums under 5s., of which 4s. is specially for Serbia (£1 3s.) Total £9 5s.

Eddisbury W.S.S. and Friends, per Miss Marjory Burgess, Hon. Sec.:—

The Dowager Lady Grey Egerton (10s.), Miss Tomlinson (10s.), Miss A. Tomlinson (10s.), Miss Tomkinson (10s.), Mrs. Dutton (5s.), Mrs. Burgess (£2 2s.), Miss F. M. Burgess (£2 8s. 6d.), Miss Prestwick (4s. 6d.). Total £7.

Further List of Beds Named.

Name of Bed.	*Donor.*
"The Fraser Bed" (Serbia)	Collected by Mrs. Fraser.
"The Clarendon Crescent Bed" (France)	Collected by Mrs. Combe.
"The Kilmarnock Ailsa Bed"	Kilmarnock W.S.S., per Mrs. Robertson.
"The Auchterless Bed"	Per Mrs. Soddy, Aberdeen.
"No. 1 Mid Lanark Women's Unionist Association Bed" (Serbia)	
"Nos. 2 and 3 Mid Lanark Women's Unionist Association Beds" (France)	Per Miss Gray Buchanan, Cambuslang.

What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Cheltenham W.S.S.

A deputation waited on Mr. Agg-Gardner, M.P. for the borough, on April 13th, to bring before him the main points urged by the Union. Mrs. Frances Swiney, President, was accompanied by two Committee members and the Secretary, and in her address laid stress on five needed reforms: (1) the removal of the order to close public-houses to women only; (2) removal of police supervision of soldiers' and sailors' wives; (3) immediate alteration of legitimacy laws in view of the immense increase of cases due to quartering of soldiers; (4) equal pay for equal work to those women offering to work in place of men under the Government scheme; and (5) granting of the Parliamentary vote to women. Mrs. S. Wilson, M.B., and Miss Theodora Mills (Secretary), emphasised some of these points. In reply, Mr. Agg-Gardner expressed himself sympathetic, but said as regards wages, "Everyone thought themselves underpaid," and the matter was largely regulated by "supply and demand." He could not promise anything definite. Although a "tried friend" of Women's Suffrage, Mr. Agg-Gardner's attitude could not be considered very satisfactory.

Next day, April 14th, a small public meeting was held in the Victoria Rooms, addressed by Miss Geraldine Cooke, the Chairman being Rev. S. Jackson, M.A., of St. Paul's Training College. This was well attended. Mr. Jackson said his sympathies were more warmly enlisted for the cause than before the war, the patriotic acts of the militant Suffragists and the fine work being done by the non-militants having won him anew. Miss Cooke outlined the relief work now done by the Union in a very interesting speech, the sympathy of the audience being evidenced both by the applause and by the very good collection. The Society's banners were displayed, and some pamphlets sold. A resolution urging the need of women's vote in view of the citizens' work they were doing was passed unanimously. Good reports were in the local papers.

The following evening a private drawing-room meeting was given by kind invitation of Miss Lloyd at Sirsa House School, when Miss G. Cooke was again the speaker, and Mrs. Swiney took the chair. The Chairman, having alluded to the deputation that had just waited on Mr. Runciman, Miss Cooke said she considered this the most important thing for women since the beginning of the war. M.P.s were supposed to consult women in legislating for them, but seldom really did so. We might be able to trust the hearts of men in their dealings with women, but we certainly could not trust their heads. The deputation had immense significance, and was very hopeful. Men realised now that they needed the help of women, but we must look to our own interests, and not sit down under the shameless sweating still going on in Government departments. It was not unpatriotic to care for women and children.

Special Committee to meet Miss Cooke on Thursday morning, April 15th.—Nine Committee members were present. It was resolved to send a telegram to headquarters in sympathy with the resolutions recently passed by the Manchester and District Federation. Miss Cooke then urged the need for keeping local Branches together, and suggested forming reading-circles, with the help of the Federation library and advice. A donation was made to the funds of the Federation, and one member offered to make one to the hospital work of the Union. As the Professional Women's Service Fund had been helped already, no more could be done at present.

Work in Bristol.

The work done by our Society since our last report has been chiefly in connection with the two Women's Patriotic Clubs which we are running, and with the working parties, at which out-of-work women are employed. The clothes made and adapted since Christmas have been sent to the Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee, to which two large bales of clothing have been dispatched. We have now begun working for the Scottish Women's Hospitals in France and Serbia, to which we hope to send a substantial contribution of clothing a little later on. A member of our Committee, Mrs. Randall Vickers, is providing a "Randall-Vickers Bed" for six months, and we hope that we may get enough response to the appeal just sent out to all our members to give a Bristol bed as well.

Mrs. W. C. H. Cross has undertaken all the interviewing of nurses for the Scottish Women's Hospitals from the West of England and Wales, and the seeing off of all nurses, transports, outfits, &c., and this entails much work and thought.

A sub-committee to arrange for educational courses has been appointed, with Miss Tanner as Hon. Secretary, and she hopes to start a Study Circle shortly and to arrange for some lectures; if possible by Mr. Lowes Dickinson.

We have also started the registration of women for the new Government scheme at our office.

The fancy dress dance for members of the St. James's Patriotic Club last month was a great success. The energetic Hon. Secretary, Miss Florence Baker, originated it and carried it through in quite a brilliant way, and many of the girls' dresses, through her help, were most tasteful and effective. The Club will be closed after this month, but various plans for the summer have been made. There will be monthly rambles on Saturday afternoons, and one of the Club members, Miss Frances Chato, will take the girls out to play cricket two evenings in the week. By these means we hope to keep the members together until we open again in the autumn.

The Bedminster Club, which was started later in the season, will be kept up during the summer, the neighbourhood being one which particularly needs a counter attraction to the public-house.

Middlesbrough.

Miss Maude Royden gave a most interesting lecture on "Militarism and Civilisation" in the Wesley Hall on April 13th. The Mayor presided. There was a good attendance, and the lecture was greatly appreciated.

Items of Interest.

The Hospitality Department of the Women's Emergency Corps.

One of the many by-results of the great war has been to restore an older, finer significance to the word "hospitality." Hospitality had come to mean the entertainment of friends, once it meant the reception of strangers—of any friendless or distressed wayfarer who knocked at the door. And now that is what it is meaning again all over Great Britain. And through hospitable doors, opened for the Belgian refugees, have wandered many other victims of the war. For those who undertook the new and uncharted work of the allotment of guests between the various proferred homes, soon found that there was a great need for this sort of emergency help for various pitiful cases of women thrown out of work on account of the war.

Some women suddenly deprived of their incomes were immediately without means of subsistence, others drifted on for a few weeks or months living on their savings while they looked for work. The offer of temporary hospitality till they found it was a solution of difficulties that were tragedies rather than problems.

When those who write stories realise the endless possibilities of romance hidden in the archieves of the "Hospitality Departments" of the Women's Emergency Corps, and kindred organisations, the situation is likely to be overworked; the friendships formed, the unlikely developments, the cheerful endings to dismal beginnings are the rewards reaped by those who have shared in the work—that, and the letters of gratitude which come, not only from those who have received hospitality, but those who have bestowed it.

On the whole it is easier to express extreme gratitude in French—at least one feels that, after reading the letters of thanks written by Belgians—but the following:—

> "Dear Emergency Corps,—You have sent me a most delightful guest, and I want to thank you a thousand times. I wonder what I can do for you now?"—

is a cheerful record of a successful transaction; and it is pleasant to know that the successes are many and the failures few. If anyone with a spare room has a desire to help a less fortunate fellow-countrywoman through a critical time, the Women's Emergency Corps will be delighted to receive such offers; or donations are most gratefully received for the purpose of paying the weekly sums needed to board-out homeless women with the many small householders who are desperately in need of a "paying guest" to balance the rise in the cost of living. No donation is too small to be applied in this way.

War Babies.

Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky will lecture at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, St. James', Piccadilly, on Tuesday night, May 4th, at 8 p.m., on "War Babies and their Mothers. How to Save Them." Admission free. Collection.

London Units for France and Serbia.

As will be seen from the list of forthcoming meetings, meetings are now being held by different branches of the London Society in aid of the London units for France and Serbia of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals. Marylebone, Wandsworth, and Holborn and South St. Pancras Branches have arranged meetings for this week.

Honours for German Women.

Thirty-eight German women are reported to have received the Iron Cross, having distinguished themselves in nursing on the field of battle. Two of these nurses received it at Ypres, where they attended to the wounded during the whole night, in spite of the heavy firing which was going on. Dr. Elisabet Reinicke, who, as we have already reported, is the first woman army doctor, and has been appointed to the charge of a military hospital, has received the title, and wears the uniform of a sanitary officer, so that full military honours are paid to her.

Activities of Swiss Women.

Although Switzerland is not at war, it is fully mobilised, and the women have therefore to take the place of men to some extent. A commission of women has been formed in order to help the wives of farmers, partly by gifts of money, partly by practical help on the farms, while a society has lately been formed in Berne, with Frau Nationalrat Müller as President, to look after the washing of the clothes for the 200,000 men who are mobilised. No charge is made for doing this work, and the clothes washed, ironed, and mended are returned as soon as possible. If any of the garments are beyond repair, they are replaced by new ones whenever possible.

Forthcoming Meetings.

APRIL 23.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home" 4.30
Marylebone—13, Nottingham Place—Drawing-room Meeting in aid of the N.U. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Hostess, Mrs. Garrett 8.30
Richmond—Castle Assembly Rooms—Public Meeting on "Women Police"—Chair, His Worship the Mayor, supported by G. Cave, Esq., M.P., the Rev. Max Binney, Lieut.-Col. Foss, Miss Damer Dawson, Lady Nott-Bower, P.L.G. 8.0
Wandsworth—31, Spencer Park—Drawing-room Meeting in aid of the N.U. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Hostess, Mrs. Shillington 3.30

APRIL 24.

Wimbledon—Wimbledon Park House, 8, Arthur Road—Drawing-room Meeting in aid of the N.U. Scottish Women's Hospitals—Hostess, Mrs. Horn 3.30

APRIL 26.

Bristol—40, Park Street—Working Party 3.0
East Street Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Cross on "Women Police"
Highgate and North St. Pancras—Spears Memorial Hall, Highgate Hill—Eighth Annual Meeting—Chair, Mrs. Garnett 8.0
Manchester—Temperance Hall, York Street, Hulme—Hulme Suffrage Club—Social Meeting 7.30

APRIL 27.

Balham—170, Bedford Hill, Hostess, Miss Shore—Speaker, the Lady Frances Balfour—Chair, Miss Christitch
Croydon—The Horniman Hall, North End—Mr. G. Lowes Dickinson on "Racial Causes of War" 8.0
North Paddington—Women's Service Bureau, 6, Hatherley Grove (by kind permission of Messrs. William Owen, Ltd.)—Working Meeting for London Units of N.U. Scottish Women's Hospitals 3.0

APRIL 28.

Holborn and South St. Pancras—Art Workers' Guild Hall, 6, Queen Square—Meeting in aid of the London Units for France and Serbia—Speaker, Miss Rosamund Smith—Chair, Mr. Charles Roden Burton 8.30
Middlesbrough—Wesley Hall, Corporation Road—Mrs. Rackham on "After the War" 8.0
Oxford—Corn Exchange—Public Meeting in aid of the N.U. Scottish Hospitals for Foreign Service—Speaker, Mr. R. W. Seton-Watson, D.Litt.—Chair, Mr. D. G. Hogarth, M.A. 8.15

APRIL 29.

Bristol—St. Agnes—Study Circle 8.0
Huddersfield—Mayor's Reception Room, Town Hall—"At Home"—Hostess, Miss Siddon (President)—West Riding Federation Annual Meeting—Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G., on "War and the Women's Movement" 3.15
Ilkley—Annual Meeting of Ilkley Society—Public Meeting at 8 p.m. in the Winter Garden—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G., and Miss Katleen Burke on "The Work of the Women's Hospitals"
Manchester—Gospel Temperance Hall, Ashton New Road—Bradford, Beswick, and New Cross Suffrage Club—Speaker, Miss Hattop 7.40
Newcastle-on-Tyne—Bible House, Pilgrim Street—Miss Phyllis Wragge on "The Ideas Underlying Modern Democracy and their Relation to a Stable Peace Settlement" 7.30
Wallasey and Wirral—St. Paul's Schools, Seacombe—Tipperary Club 7.30

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

HOLBORN AND SOUTH ST. PANCRAS BRANCH.—Meeting, Art Workers' Guild Hall, 6, Queen-sq., W.C., April 28th, 8.30 p.m. London Units for France and Serbia. Chair: Mr. Charles Roden Buxton. Tickets: 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s., from London Society's Office, 58, Victoria-st.

PERSONAL.

TO MISS MARY FIELDEN.—Please send me your address. I lost it the day after you gave it to me.—I. O. Ford, Adel Grange.

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THE Glasgow Society for Women's Suffrage wants an experienced organiser for the beginning of September.—Apply, by letter, Suffrage Offices, 202, Hope-st., stating experience and salary required.

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